

# Information Sheet for Math 504 Fall 2013

**Class Meets:** MTRF 1 pm in BH 151

**Instructor:** Branko Ćurgus

**Office:** BH 178

**Office Hours:** MTRF 10 am

**Course Website:** <http://faculty.wvu.edu/curgus/Courses/504.201340/504.html>

**Text:** *Linear Algebra Done Right* by Sheldon Axler

**Material covered.** We plan to cover most of the first seven chapters of the textbook.

**Exams.** There will be two “mid-term” exams and a comprehensive final exam. The “mid-term” exams are scheduled for: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 and Tuesday, November 19, 2013. The final exam is scheduled for three hours on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 from 1pm to 4pm.

On each exam I will assign one or two questions related to the theory presented in class (a proof of an important theorem for example) and two problems. One of these problems might be a problem discussed in class or an exercise from the book.

There will be no make-up exams. If you are unable to take an exam for a very serious reason verified in writing, please see me beforehand.

**Assignments.** There will be two written homework assignments. The assignments will be handed out in class one week before they are due. These assignments will be graded and the grade will count towards the final grade.

**Homework.** Your daily homework should consist of studying the material covered in class. Proofs that I will present in class will often differ from the proofs in the textbook. Study both: your class notes and the book. Analyze the similarities and the differences. This will help you to internalize the concepts and the methods that are being studied. Exercises in the book are there to enhance and challenge the learning process. Use them.

**Grading.** Each exam and assignment will be graded by an integer between 0 and 100. Your final grade will be determined using the following formula

$$FG = [0.2 * E1 + 0.2 * E2 + 0.15 * A1 + 0.15 * A2 + 0.3 * FE].$$

Your letter grade will be assigned according to the following table.

F	: 0 - 49	D	: 50 - 54	C-	: 55 - 59	C	: 60 - 64	C+	: 65 - 69
B-	: 70 - 74	B	: 75 - 79	B+	: 80 - 84	A-	: 85 - 89	A	: 90 - 100

**Remarks.** This is a fast-paced course. It builds on the concepts that you learned in undergraduate linear algebra courses and some ideas from calculus. It is essential that you keep up with the material presented every day. Do the exercises at the end of each chapter. Look for help if you encounter difficulties.

**Remember** that the best way to learn mathematics is to discuss it with others: other students in this class, students that took this class before, and me. I will be glad to talk to you during my office hours, or you can make an appointment.

**Email.** You can email me with your mathematical or class related questions. I will try my best to respond. I will cc my response to the entire class.