

**SYLLABUS – Math 322**  
**Spring 2009**

Dr. J. Shapiro

**Office:** Science & Tech. I, Room 201C

**Hours:** MW 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

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**Text:** *Linear Algebra*, by S. Friedberg, A. Insel and L. Spence - Fourth Edition

**Web:** [math.gmu.edu/~jshapiro/m322/index.html](http://math.gmu.edu/~jshapiro/m322/index.html)

**Prerequisite:** The official prerequisite for this course is Math 290 and Math 203 or Math 216. Primarily what is needed is a knowledge of matrix algebra, elementary set theory and familiarity with mathematical proofs. If you have any doubts about having sufficient background for this course please speak to me.

**Material to be covered:** We will cover chapters 1 - 5 and 6.1 - 6.5 with some sections omitted. (This may be a bit optimistic.) Most of chapter 1 is review of matrix algebra, so it will be covered quickly.

**Grading:** Your grade will be based on two in-class exams, which are 100 points each, the final, which is comprehensive and worth 150 points and homeworks, worth approximately 20-25 points each, which you will have to hand in throughout the semester. The tentative (except for the final) exam schedule is:

Exam 1	Wednesday, Feb. 25
Exam 2	Wednesday, April 8
Final	Wednesday, May 6 10:30 - 1:15

There will be approximately five or six hand-in assignments during the term. Typically they will be due on Wednesday at the end of the day in the envelope attached to my office door (of course you may hand in assignments earlier, during the class period). These assignments should be done without consultation with other people, since it is graded work. However, you are allowed to ask me question regarding this work (though I may choose not to answer certain questions). While on occasion, given a good reason, I will accept an assignment handed in late, I reserve the right to refuse any work submitted after the due date. Homework assignments will be posted on the homepage for this course. The address for this page is listed above, the homepage can also be accessed indirectly through the Math Department home page under "Course Home Pages".

Besides the homework that is for hand-in, you will be assigned problems which are not to be turned in. It is important that you put a significant amount of effort into these problems as well.