

Differential Topology
MATH 740
Spring, 2018
W 4:30–7:10
Exploratory Hall, 4106

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Course web pages: <http://math.gmu.edu/~lawrence/m740/m740.htm>

Text: *Differential Topology*, by Hirsch, publ. Springer-Verlag, 1976.

The course will cover material from chapters 1–6 of the text, including Sard’s Theorem, vector bundles, degree theory, and Morse theory (time permitting).

Required work: Attention to and participation in class discussions of problems (mainly from the text); presentation of solutions to problems; homework; possible short-answer quizzes; the final exam.

Your grade in the course will be based on the above, with rather flexible weights. Let us say, participation and presentation of solutions will count somewhere between 30% and 60%; homework and quizzes will count somewhere between 30% and 60%; and the final exam will make up the rest of the 90%. (Oh, sorry. 100%.) The grading style for the course might be described as “relaxed.” For the rather forgiving nature of grades in this class, you may thank, in part, Professor Gladstone and Professor Tucker (if you can find them).