

MATH 127, Winter 2006

MW 4:00 - 6:00 pm

B745EH

Text: The Shape of Space, Jeff Weeks

Office Hours: M 11:15 -12:30; W 2:30-3:45

Instructor: Emina Alibegovic

Office: EH1825

Phone: 647-5518

e-mail: eminaa@umich.edu

Note Our official classroom is B745 EH. However, on occasion we will need to change places due to need for different computers. Our alternate places will be:

M: Angell Hall Classroom B

W: West Hall

course webpage: <http://www.math.lsa.umich.edu/~eminaa/teaching/127w06/127.html>

Our goals

Our goal this semester is to get familiarized with some ideas from topology and geometry. Mostly we will be discussing examples of two and three manifolds, geometries they have and their properties. The idea is to have fun while learning mathematics. We will be drawing lots of pictures so bring your artistic self along. We will also require special tools every once in a while so make sure to check the course webpage before each class.

Grading Policy

Your grades will be determined on the base of homeworks (30 %), quizzes (30%), midterm (20 %) and final project (20 %). These are components that are easily quantifiable. However, attendance and participation will also influence your grade substantially (i.e. I reserve the right to change your grade half a letter grade up or down for each of the two). It is essential that you attend the class and actively participate in discussions and class work.

I will assign and collect homework weekly or biweekly (what I hope is a fairly accurate schedule is on our course webpage). If I assign problems from the book, since their solutions are in the back, I insist that you write your solutions up in your own words and with your own explanations. Otherwise, even a solution will yield no credit. Write effectively, with due attention to organization and logical progression of the ideas. Each solution should be complete and appropriately supported - by relevant observations, argumentation, drawings, etc.

Note: Just because this a math class does not mean you are allowed to make grammar, spelling and other mistakes that would imply you should be in an English class instead. Complete presentation will be graded!

I will further insist that you come to each class having read that day's lesson. This way we can have more conversation, and less lecturing.

The quizzes will be announced in class one class period in advance. They will also be given weekly/biweekly. Same rules apply as for homeworks.

The midterm project will consist of written and oral presentation. We will talk about this more as the time approaches, but the idea is that you will pick a topic or a problem and write an essay on it, which you will present in class. The presentation will last about 15 minutes.

The final project will be only a written project, and this one will be more substantial than the midterm project. I will provide a list of topics. However, you will be able to write about something that is not

on the list subject to my approval.

The grading scheme is as follows:

A	93% - 100%	B	84% - 88%	C	71% - 79%	D	62% - 66%
A-	91%- 92%	B-	82%-83%	C-	69%-70%	D-	60%-61%
B+	89% - 90%	C+	80% - 81%	D+	67% - 68%	E	59% or below

Few other things

- The office hours I listed are just a suggestion. If you have some other time that you prefer, let me know. Even if we don't change the times, just let me know and I will meet with you outside office hours.
- Students may drop the class without penalty or permission through the 25th of January. After that date they can withdraw only by obtaining permission from the Academic Unit and will have W on their transcript.
- If, at any point, you want to give me some feedback about my teaching you will find an anonymous evaluation form on the course webpage.
- The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, cognitive, systemic, learning or psychiatric disabilities. Please, contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss any such accommodations for this course.