MAT 531 – A Second Course in Linear Algebra - Spring 2009

Instructor: Prof. D. Quinn; 229D Physics Building: 443-1484; dpquinn@syr.edu

Office Hours: Monday 11.40am–12.35pm, Tuesday 10am–11am, Wednesday 12.45pm-1.40pm and by appointment.

Text: *Linear Algebra Done Right*, 2nd edition, by Sheldon Axler, Springer, 1997

Prerequisites: MAT 331 and MAT 275/CIS 275

Course Description: The main goal is to give a rigorous, proof-based treatment of linear algebra. We plan to cover much of Chapters 1–7 of the text, with some additional topics. You will find this course quite different from MAT 331. For one thing, there will be an emphasis on developing proof-writing skills. Some of the concepts will be familiar from MAT 331, but many will be new. The material here is developed in an abstract setting that makes it more easily adapted to different applications.

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned in class. Some problems will be designated for handing in and these will be graded. You may discuss the problems, but each student is required to write up independent solutions. It is important to develop the ability to write concise and complete proofs. Late homework will not be accepted.

Quizzes: There will be a short quiz at the end of class most Wednesdays. This will cover the material most recently presented in class. The intent is to help you keep up to date with the material. Most students will find quizzes a way to improve their grade in the course.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and a final exam as follows:

Exam I:	Wednesday, February 18th, 2009
Exam II:	Wednesday, April 1st, 2009
Final Exam:	Tuesday, May 5, 2009 7:15-9:15pm

Make-ups: No make-ups will be given for quizzes or missed homework, but to allow for emergencies you may miss up to two quizzes and two homework assignments. Otherwise your two lowest scores for each will be dropped. There will be no make-up exams. A missed examination counts as a zero unless you present a valid excuse, for example a physician's note. With the excuse, you may use your score on the relevant portion of the final exam to replace the missed exam.

Students with Disabilities: Students who may need academic accommodations due to a disability are encouraged to discuss their needs with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. In order to obtain authorized accommodations, students should be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS), 804 University Avenue, Room 309, 315-443-4498 and have an updated accommodation letter for the instructor. Accommodations and related support services such as exam administration are not provided retroactively and must be requested in advance. For more information about services and policy, see Office of Disability Services at http://disabilityservices.syr.edu

Academic Integrity: The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the Policy and know that it also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort. For more information and the complete policy, see http://academicintegrity.syr.edu