# **MATH 3410.003 Differential Equations (Fall 2025)**

## **Instructor Contact**

**Name:** Dr. Matthew Dulock

**Office Location:** GAB 449

**Office Hours:** M & F: 1:00 – 2:30 PM, W: 12:30 – 2:00 PM

**Email:** [matthew.dulock@unt.edu](mailto:matthew.dulock@unt.edu)

**Communication Expectations:** You can expect me to respond to emails within one business day. Please be courteous to others during office hours and come with specific questions; there may be students waiting behind you. Office hours are not a substitute or replacement for a missed lecture.

## **Course Meets**

MWF 11 – 11:50 AM in WH 317

## **Course Description**

3 hours. First order linear equations, separable equations, second order linear equations, method of undetermined coefficients, variation of parameters, power series solutions, regular singular points, the Laplace transform, and some applications. Applications will be selected from motion problems, electric circuits, growth and decay problems, harmonic oscillators, mixing problems, mechanical vibrations, Newton’s law of gravity and population dynamics. **Prerequisite(s):** MATH 1720

## **Required Text/Materials**

*Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems,* 12th ed. By Boyce and Diprima; **Wiley Plus is not required. An e-text or paper copy is fine. Beware the international editions as the problems sometimes differ.**

## **Grading**

Homework – 25%

Exams (best 3 of 4) – 75%

*There are 3 midterms and a comprehensive final exam. Among these, the highest 3 scores will count for 25% each. That is, you may choose to omit the final in which case I will compute your exam average from the midterms.*

* A: 90-100% (Outstanding, excellent work. The student performs well above the minimum criteria.)
* B: 80-89% (Good, impressive work. The student performs above the minimum criteria.)
* C: 70-79% (Solid, college-level work. The student meets the criteria of the assignment.)
* D: 60-69% (Below average work. The student fails to meet the minimum criteria.)
* F: 59 and below (Sub-par work. The student fails to complete the assignment.)

**Late work will not be accepted in this course regardless of the reason.**

## **Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions**

* Officially, the prerequisite is the completion of MATH 1720.
* In addition to these courses, you need to be motivated/willing to put in several hours of work each week to absorb the material in each section. Math courses can be ruthlessly cumulative, making it hard to catch up once you fall behind.

## **Course Structure**

This course will meet in person 3 times per week for lecture. There will be regular homework, 3 midterm exams, and a comprehensive final.

### **Homework**

Assignments concerning the material covered during a given week will **typically** (but perhaps not always) be due on Wednesday of the following week. In any case, assignments and due dates will be posted in Canvas. Your homework assignment must be legible and stapled. Leave at least one line of space between problems. The grader will not be required to grade illegible or otherwise sloppy papers. I will drop your lowest two (2) homework assignments.

### **Exams**

If you miss an exam, you receive a zero for that exam. There are no make-up exams. However, your lowest exam grade (including a zero from a missed exam) may be replaced by your score on the final exam if it is higher. You may ask me to go over exam problems with you. However, all decisions on partial credit are final and not open for discussion.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is important and required. In this class, this means looking alive in class and working through the examples in lecture as we go. Checking Canvas regularly for updates is also part of attendance. It is assumed that you will do this. Again, in math courses it is all too easy to quickly fall far enough behind so that it becomes significantly difficult to catch up. Showing up and paying attention in class is the best preventative measure. It is possible (but absolutely not promised) that there may be occasional small extra credit opportunities. These may be given with little or no notice, so if these would be important to you, then you should attend class without fail and keep an eye on Canvas.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student found cheating will receive no credit on the assignment and a report will be filed with the office of academic integrity.

## **START WORKING NOW**

The best way to ensure you pass this course is to work consistently throughout the semester. If you need to pass this course because it is your last semester, your financial aid depends on it, or your scholarship depends on it, then do yourself a favor and start studying right away. **I will not entertain any pleas for extra credit or offers to do additional work at the end of the semester.**

## **Technical Requirements & Skills**

### **Minimum Technology Requirements**

* Access to a computer, tablet, or laptop that is compatible with all required apps for the course
* Access to reliable internet
* A scientific or basic graphing calculator (TI-84 or equivalent) may be helpful

### **Technical Skills & Digital Literacy**

* Navigate Canvas
* Scan documents and create pdf files (there are several free scanning apps for phones / tablets like Adobe Scan or Office Lens)
* Upload documents to Canvas

## **Schedule**

*I reserve the right to change this schedule as necessary throughout the semester. You are still responsible for being aware of any changes I announced in class even if you were not present.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MONDAY** | **TUESDAY** | **WEDNESDAY** | **THURSDAY** | **FRIDAY** |
| 8/18  Preliminaries  2.1 Integrating factors | 8/19 | 8/20  2.1 Cont’d | 8/21 | 8/22  2.2 Separable equations |
| 8/25  2.2 cont’d  2.3 Modeling | 8/26 | 8/27  2.3 Cont’d | 8/28 | 8/29  2.4 Linear vs Nonlinear equations |
| 9/1  **Labor Day – No class** | 9/2 | 9/3  2.4 Cont’d  2.5 Stability | 9/4 | 9/5  2.5 Logistic Model  Intro to partial derivatives |
| 9/8  2.6 Exact equations | 9/9 | 9/10  2.6 Cont’d  2.8 Successive approximations (time permitting) | 9/11 | 9/12  3.1 2nd order constant coefficient equations |
| 9/15  3.2 Theory of 2nd order equations / Wronskian | 9/16 | 9/17  3.2 Cont’d  3.3 Complex roots of the characteristic equation | 9/18 | 9/19  **Exam 1 (Chapter 2)** |
| 9/22  3.3 Cont’d | 9/23 | 9/24  3.4 Repeat roots / reduction of order | 9/25 | 9/26  3.4 Cont’d  3.5 Undetermined coefficients |
| 9/29  3.5 Cont’d | 9/30 | 10/1  3.5 Cont’d  3.6 Variation of parameters | 10/2 | 10/3  3.6 cont’d |
| 10/6  4.1 Higher order equations  4.2 Constant coefficient equations | 10/7 | 10/8  4.2 Cont’d | 10/9 | 10/10  4.3 Undetermined coefficients (again) |
| 10/13  4.3 Cont’d  5.1 Review power series / analytic functions | 10/14 | 10/15  5.1 Cont’d | 10/16 | 10/17  5.2 & 5.3 Series solutions at ordinary points |
| 10/20  **Exam 2 (Chapters 3 & 4)** | 10/21 | 10/22  5.2 & 5.3 Cont’d | 10/23 | 10/24  5.2 & 5.3 cont’d |
| 10/27  5.4 Cauchy Euler equations | 10/28 | 10/29  5.4 Regular singular points  5.5 Series solutions near a regular singular point | 10/30 | 10/31  5.5 Cont’d |
| 11/3  5.5 Cont’d | 11/4 | 11/5  5.6 Series solutions near a regular singular point II | 11/6 | 11/7  6.1 Laplace transform |
| 11/10  6.1 Laplace transform | 11/11 | 11/12  6.2 IVP by Laplace | 11/13 | 11/14  6.2 IVP by Laplace |
| 11/17  Catch up if behind or review for exam 3 | 11/18 | 11/19  Review for exam 3 | 11/20 | 11/21  **Exam 3 (Ch. 5, 6.1-6.2)** |
| 11/24  **Thanksgiving Break** | 11/25  **Thanksgiving Break** | 11/26  **Thanksgiving Break** | 11/27  **Thanksgiving Break** | 11/28  **Thanksgiving Break** |
| 12/1  More on Laplace or Systems of DE | 12/2 | 12/3  Wrap up / Review | 12/4 | 12/5  **Reading day**  **(No class)** |

**Summary of Key Dates – Fall 2025:**

**August 18, Monday**

Classes begin.

**August 22, Friday**

Last day to add/swap a class.

**August 29, Friday**

Last day to drop a course without a W

**September 26, Friday**

Last day to change to pass/no pass

**November 7, Friday**

Last day for a student to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W

**November 8, Saturday**

Beginning this date, a student may request a grade of “I”, incomplete, a non-punitive grade given only if a student (1) is passing, (2) has justifiable reason why the work cannot be completed on schedule; and (3) arranges with the instructor to complete the work.

**December 5, Friday**

Reading day; no class

**December 6, Saturday – December 12, Friday**

Final examinations. Terms ends.

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

* While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
* Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
* Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
* Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
* Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
* Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
* Proofread and fact-check your sources.
* Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.

Online Course System

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk**: [UIT Student Help Desk site](https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk) (https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk)

**Email**: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability**: 8am-9pm

**Telephone Availability**:

* Sunday: noon-midnight
* Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
* Friday: 8am-8pm
* Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout**: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website](https://disability.unt.edu/) (<https://disability.unt.edu/>).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect) (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](file:///E:\C:\Users\jdl0126\AppData\Local\Temp\OneNote\16.0\NT\0\no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the [SPOT website](http://spot.unt.edu/) (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email [spot@unt.edu](file:///E:\C:\Users\jdl0126\AppData\Local\Temp\OneNote\16.0\NT\0\spot@unt.edu).

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

**Federal Regulation**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/) (http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

* The work is used only once.
* The work is not used in its entirety.
* Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
* The student is not identified.
* The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

**Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses**

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

**Class Recordings & Student Likenesses**

In case synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this class section to refer to throughout the semester: Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Academic Support & Student Services

Student Support Services

*Mental Health*

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

*Chosen Names*

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

* [UNT Records](https://registrar.unt.edu/transcripts-and-records/update-your-personal-information)
* [UNT ID Card](https://sfs.unt.edu/idcards)
* [UNT Email Address](https://itservices.cas.unt.edu/services/email/request/get-email-alias)
* [Legal Name](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)

*\*UNT euIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

*Pronouns*

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don’t assume someone’s name, we should also ask and not assume someone’s pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-18406-42121184808) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

* [What are pronouns and why are they important?](https://www.mypronouns.org/what-and-why)
* [How do I use pronouns?](https://www.mypronouns.org/how)
* [How do I share my pronouns?](https://www.mypronouns.org/sharing)
* [How do I ask for another person’s pronouns?](https://www.mypronouns.org/asking)
* [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](https://www.mypronouns.org/mistakes)

*Additional Student Support Services*

* [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
* [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
* [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
* [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
* [Multicultural Center](https://idea.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (https://idea.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [Pride Alliance](https://idea.unt.edu/pridealliance) (https://idea.unt.edu/pridealliance)
* [UNT Food Pantry](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/food-pantry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/food-pantry)

Academic Support Services

* [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
* [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
* [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
* [Writing Center](https://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (https://writingcenter.unt.edu/)
* [Math Lab](https://learningcenter.unt.edu/math-lab) (https://learningcenter.unt.edu/math-lab)

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