

De Anza College – Fall 2026

MATH 2A-17 (CRN 28603)

Differential Equations

Instructor: Lucian Segal, PhD

Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:45 pm PST in room S46

Email: segalucian@fhda.edu or segamath@gmail.com

Phone/Text: 408-598-7107

Office Hours: Fridays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm PST (zoom) or by appointment

Prerequisites

Math 1D or Math 1DH (with a grade of C or better)

Course Materials

- Textbook: De Anza College Openstax:
https://math.libretexts.org/Courses/De_Anza_College/Introductory_Differential_Equations
- Instructor notes

Calculator

A graphing calculator (e.g. TI-83/TI-84, TI-nspire CX CAS) is recommended.

Tips for Success

- Participate actively in class discussions and office hours
- Do not fall behind on assignments, work problems/practice every day

- Review old material constantly (brush up previous calculus courses)
- Make use of tutoring and online resources

Course Objectives

- Explore the development and classification of differential equations
- Construct differential equations models from social and natural sciences and engineering
- Apply analytical, quantitative, and numerical methods to solve first order differential equations including the existence and uniqueness theorem in the development of the methods and solutions
- Apply analytical methods to solve second and higher order linear differential equations and some special nonlinear equations and include the existence and uniqueness theorems in the development of the methods and solutions
- Solve systems of linear ordinary differential equations with constant coefficients
- Find power series solutions to linear ordinary differential equations with variable coefficients, initial value problems
- Use Laplace transforms to solve ordinary linear differential equations with constant coefficients, initial value problems

Student Learning Outcomes

- Construct and evaluate differential equation models to solve application problems
- Classify, solve, and analyze differential equation problems by applying appropriate techniques and theory

Homework and Quizzes

Homework problems will be assigned regularly and posted in canvas each week. The homework for an entire week is due by 11:59 pm PST on Monday of the following week. The homework problems will provide a good preparation for the midterms and final exam. Homework assignments that are less than 1 day late will be subject to a 10% deduction. Homework assignments that are between 2 and 7 days late will be subject to a 25% deduction. Homework assignments that are more than 7 days late will be subject to a 50% deduction.

Quizzes will be given approximately once a week and will be similar to the homework and class examples. The quizzes are take-home, will be posted in canvas on Friday

each week, and are due back by 11:59 pm PST on the following Monday. Late quizzes are not accepted and will be given no credit, independent of how late they are turned in.

Please submit your solution files through Canvas for both homework and quizzes.

Midterm Exams

There will be two one-hour in-class midterm exams:

- **Tuesday, October 13**
- **Tuesday, November 10**

Make-up midterms will only be given in extraordinary circumstances.

Final Exam: **Thursday, December 10, 2026, 6:15-8:15 pm in S16**

A mandatory comprehensive 2-hour long final exam will be given at the end of the quarter. The final exam must be taken on Thursday, December 10, at the scheduled time. There is no make-up final exam.

Last day to drop a course without a W: Sunday, October 4, 2026

Grading Policy

- Homework.....15%
- Quizzes.....15%
- Each midterm exam.....20%
- Final exam.....30%

A+: 98-100

B+: 87-88

C+: 74-77

F: 0-54

A: 92-97

B: 80-86

C: 65-73

A-: 89-91

B-: 78-79

D: 55-64

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes, to be on time and to stay for the entire class period. Any student who misses more than one (1) class during the first two weeks or more than three (3) classes before the withdraw deadline may be dropped by the instructor. If a student decides not to continue with the course, it is the student's responsibility to officially drop the course. Failure to do so may result in a grade of F for the course.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are responsible for keeping themselves informed of the De Anza College Policy on Academic Integrity. Cheating will not be tolerated and may result in receiving a zero on the exam or an F for the course and being reported to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action.

<https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic-integrity.html>

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this course are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services (408-864-8753) or Educational Diagnostic Center (408-864-8839) as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are arranged in a timely fashion.

Student Learning Outcome(s):

- Construct and evaluate differential equation models to solve application problems.
- Classify, solve and analyze differential equation problems by applying appropriate techniques and theory.

Office Hours:

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	E37A or the PSME Village	M
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	E37A or the PSME Village	M
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Zoom	F
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Zoom	F
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Zoom	F