

**Professor:** George L. Ashline

**Office:** 261 Jeanmarie Hall, Phone: 654-2434

**Class Meets:** T, Th from 8:10 to 9:40 AM in St. Edmund's 109

**Office Hours:** M, W, F: 2:00–3:00 PM, T: 12:30–2:00 PM; appointments available for other times.

**Textbook:** *Linear Algebra* by Professor James Hefferon

**eCollege, Tegrity, Clickers, Homepage:** I will post course assignments, solutions, updates, and other materials at our eCollege site at <http://www.smcvtonline.org/>. You can also access Tegrity recordings of our classes from eCollege. I will regularly send out e-mail updates and archive these on eCollege. Other course materials are available through the “Doc Sharing” portion of the site. For example, we may regularly use clicker technology to enhance class discussion, summarize key concepts, and provide opportunities for everyone to participate. You can access information about this course and otherwise at <http://academics.smcvt.edu/gashline/> and text information at <http://joshua.smcvt.edu/linalg.html>, a site maintained by Professor Hefferon. In particular, you can read about the motivation and goals for the text and can download portions of the text as well as solutions to problems included in the text.

**Homework:** Problems will be assigned on a regular basis. Some problems will be collected every week or so, and others provide more daily practice with the underlying concepts. Some of the homework will involve analysis using the computer algebra system Maple. Each assignment will have a due date to be submitted when the class meets on that day. Late problem sets will not be accepted. It is critical to keep up with your homework assignments and additional assigned problems.

**Exams:** There will be two in-class exams given during the semester and a comprehensive final exam. The tentative schedule for the exams is:

Exam 1	Tuesday, October 4
Exam 2	Tuesday, November 15
Cumulative Final Exam	Tuesday, December 13

If you have a significant conflict with any exam date, let me know this ASAP beforehand.

**Additional Support:** If you have questions, be sure to address them early, and feel free to stop by my office for help. Also, through our campus peer tutoring office, you can seek one-on-one tutoring and take advantage of regular evening drop-in sessions.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on the homework, quizzes, labs, and four exams according to the following distribution:

Homework	180 points
Highest semester exam	150 points
Lowest semester exam	120 points
Final exam	150 points

Your final grade will be based on a total of 600 points. Make-up exams will not be given, unless a verifiable emergency/serious illness has arisen, and you notify me beforehand.

**Learning Disabilities:** Any student having a documented learning disability that may affect the learning of mathematics is invited to consult privately with me during the first week of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Academic Integrity:** You are reminded of the academic integrity policy of Saint Michael's College. Academic integrity requires that the work you complete for this class is your own. Some examples of offenses against academic integrity include plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, interference, and interference using information technology. Details about academic integrity offenses and the possible sanctions resulting from them have been distributed at the beginning of the academic year and also can be found in the Assistant Dean's office.

**Class Attendance:** The following is taken from the Saint Michael's College Online Catalogue under "Academic Regulations":

"Students should understand that the main reason for attending college is to be guided in their learning activities by their professors. This guidance takes place primarily in the classroom and the laboratory.

The following policies have been established:

1. Members of the teaching faculty and students are expected to meet all scheduled classes unless prevented from doing so by illness or other emergencies.
2. The instructor of a course will set the attendance policy for the course.
3. The instructor may report excessive absences to the Assistant Dean of the College, who may warn the student.

#### **ADVICE FROM PREVIOUS STUDENTS:**

- Don't fall behind and work on exam problems that are assigned; go over HW to study for exams
- If you need help, go and get it.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions and get things explained because they all contribute to your understanding. In addition, Prof Ashline is always willing to help to take advantage of it.
- Start studying about 4 days before the tests. Homework can really make or break you in this class so start it as soon as you can. If you learn about Chapter 6.2 in class do all the questions in 6.2 from the homework that night, because then you will know if you need extra help. Take good notes and write down everything you can because it will help you understand them later. And maybe most importantly, conceptualize as much as you can. Good luck!
- Do your work!
- Don't wait to start the HW, sometimes you will need help, others you won't. Work together.
- Stay on top of the work – start the homework early so that if questions arise there is adequate time to meet with the professor. Going to class every day also helps with staying on top of the work. And don't be afraid to ask for help!
- Complete HW before the night before it is due, keep up with it while it is being taught. Go for help when it is needed.
- When studying, practice makes perfect.
- Do your homework as he teaches the material, instead of waiting till the last day, it definitely helps.
- Keep up with the reading and additional problems.
- Start the problem sets early and review notes before and after each class so that you remember material more easily.
- Take use of office hours; do homework (graded/additional); be prepared to work hard