

**18.06 Linear Algebra, Fall 2015**  
**MWF 11-12 Room 54-100**

**Lecturer:** Alex Townsend (office: E18-475, email: [ajt@mit.edu](mailto:ajt@mit.edu))

**Lecture hour:** MWF at 11am in room 54-100

**Course Administrator:** Nathan Harman (office: E17-401v, email: [nharman@mit.edu](mailto:nharman@mit.edu))

**Course Webpage:** <http://web.mit.edu/18.06/www/> (handouts, etc.).

**Textbook:** **Introduction to Linear Algebra (4th edition) by Gilbert Strang.** Previous editions can be hard to use precisely because there are a number of small differences especially in the problem sets.

**Recitations:** You must enroll in a specific section (see [web.mit.edu/18.06/www/](http://web.mit.edu/18.06/www/)). Your homework and exams will go to that section. Changes are made through the Stellar Course Management Website.

**Your recitation instructor** (*not your lecturer!*) is the person to ask all questions about homework and grades.

**Homework:** Assignments will be due on Thursdays **by 4PM**. Please put them in the box for your section in E17-131. Please staple them (you may use the provided stapler). They are due every week and are returned in recitation. Late homework will not be accepted and no extensions are granted.

The homeworks are essential in learning linear algebra. They are not a test and you are encouraged to talk to other students about difficult problems — after you have found them difficult. Talking about linear algebra is healthy. But you must write your own solutions. **The lowest homework score will be dropped in favor of a perfect score.**

**In-class exams:** There will be three 50 min exams (Room 50-340) at class times on:

- Monday, October 5th
- Friday, November 6th
- Wednesday, December 2nd

Students that sign up for two classes at the same time are not excused. The 18.06 exam must be taken during the 18.06 class time. The use of calculators or notes is not permitted. **The lowest in-class exam score will be dropped in favor of a perfect score.**

**Final exam:** There is a final exam for 18.06.

**Grading:** Problem sets 15%, three one-hour exams 45% (15% each), final exam 40%.

**Software:** Half of each homework will be done online either using MITx and MATLAB or Julia. We are encouraging Julia — it is fast, free, and very useful.