

18.06 Linear Algebra, Spring 2006

Lecturer:	Alan Edelman	Course coordinator:	Alice Chan
Lecture hour:	MWF at 11 in 54–100	Office hours:	
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Course Web Page: <http://web.mit.edu/18.06/www/> Watch there for all messages.

Text: Introduction to Linear Algebra (Third Edition) by Gilbert Strang.

The official bookstore for 18.06 is Quantum Books (corner of Broadway and Ames), and the Coop.

Recitations: You must enroll in a specific section (they are listed on web.mit.edu/18.06/). Your homework and exams will go to that section. Changes are made in the Undergraduate Math Office (2–108). Your recitation instructor (*not your lecturer!!!*) is the person to ask *all questions about homework and grades*.

Important: **Recitation 10** (T2 in 2-131) **has been cancelled**. If you have not been reasigned yet, you **MUST GO TO 2–108** to register for a different section!!!!

Homework: Assignments will be due on Wednesdays, BEFORE 4PM. Please put them in the box for your section in 2–106, next to the Undergraduate Mathematics Office. Please staple them (you may use the UMO stapler). They are due every week except exam weeks and are returned in recitation. Late homework is not accepted.

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.

Exams: There will be three one-hour exams (*in Walker*) at class times on Monday March 6, Friday April 7, and Wednesday May 10. There is a final exam which the registrar will schedule within May 22–26. The use of calculators or notes is not permitted during the exams.

Your grade: Problem sets 15%, three one-hour exams 45%, final exam 40%.

MATLAB: Some homework problems will require you to use MATLAB, which is available on Athena and other systems. The course web page has more information on MATLAB, including a tutorial. MATLAB is the outstanding software for linear algebra. 18.06 will use it for the best homework problems. The student version of MATLAB (Prentice-Hall) is now upgraded with great graphics. The full newest version of MATLAB is on Athena.

Videos: Videos of Professor Strang's lectures in an earlier year are available on the course web page and also ocw.mit.edu. The VCR format is in the Barker Engineering library.