

18.06 Linear Algebra, Spring 2008

Lecturer:	Gilbert Strang	Course coordinator:	Brian Lehmann
Lecture hour:	MWF at 11 in 54–100	Office hour:	Monday 1:45–2:30
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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 through the Course Management Website:

https://gluonsandquarks.mit.edu/grade_management.htm.

Bookmark that site! A link to the course management website is also available on the 18.06 web page.

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

* * *homework and grades.*

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 in 2-106 or the UMO.

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 3, Wednesday April 2, and Friday May 2. There is a final exam which the registrar will schedule within May 19–23. The use of calculators or notes is not permitted during the exams.

Your grade: Problem sets 20%, three one-hour exams 45%, final exam 35%.

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.