18.06 Linear Algebra, Spring 2009

Lecturer:	Steven G. Johnson		
Lecture hour:	MWF at 11 in 54–100	**Course coordinator:**	Liang Xiao
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* * **Course Web Page:** `http://web.mit.edu/18.06/` (handouts, announcements, etc.).

Textbook: Introduction to Linear Algebra (3rd *or* 4th edition) by Gilbert Strang.

The fourth edition should be at the Coop by the second week of class.

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 Stellar Course Management Website:

`http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/18/sp09/18.06/`.

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 **by 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 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.

Exams: There will be three one-hour exams (*in Walker*) at class times on Monday March 2, Wednesday April 1, and Friday May 1. There is a final exam which the registrar will schedule within May 18–22. The use of calculators or notes is not permitted during the exams.

Grading: Problem sets 20%, three one-hour exams 45% (15% each), final exam 35%.

MATLAB: Some homework problems will require you to use MATLAB, an important tool for numerical linearl algebra, which is available at MIT on Athena and other systems.

`http://web.mit.edu/matlab/www/`.

This web page has more information on MATLAB, including a tutorial. (No previous MATLAB experience is required in 18.06.)

Videos: Videos of Professor Strang's lectures in an earlier year are available on the course web page and also at `ocw.mit.edu`.