



**ENGR 255****NAME & NUMBER OF COURSE**

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**SYNONYMOUS COURSES:**

(a) replaces \_\_\_\_\_  
(course #)

(b) cannot take Math 255 for further credit  
(course #)

**SUPPLIES/MATERIALS:****TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS (List reading resources elsewhere)**

Boyce & DiPrima, Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems.

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course is designed to introduce students to basic techniques and applications of ordinary differential equations. Students will use graphing calculators and computer algebra software to solve realistic problems. The course sequence will be chosen to facilitate the concurrent teaching of Physics 221.

**METHODS:**

Lectures and computer labs, with considerable use of graphing calculators and mathematical software such as MAPLE.

**STUDENT EVALUATION PROCEDURE:**

This will vary somewhat with the instructor, but will typically be as follows:

Assignments and/or projects	20-25%
In-class tests	35-40%
Final examination	40%

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**COURSE CONTENT**

1. First-order linear equations, including separable variables, exact equations, integrating factors (1 week)
2. Second-order linear equations, including a review of complex numbers and Euler's identity, use of the D-operator, reduction in the order of the differential equation, and variation of the parameters (3 weeks)
3. Linear systems of linear equations, including sinusoidal forcing terms (2 weeks)
4. Non-linear equations and numerical methods (2 weeks)
5. Series solutions and recurrence relations (1.5 weeks)
6. Laplace transforms (2 weeks)