

Autumn 2023: Syllabus for LinA

Prof. Jonathan L.F. King
University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611-2082, USA

For all of my courses

[Specific **Linear Algebra** info starts on the next page.]

Who? Prof. King Eddress: squash@ufl.edu

Office: 402Little Tel: 352-294-2314

Math Dept: 3rd floor Little Dept.Tel: **352-294-2350**

To find my office (402 Little Hall; Top floor, NE corner) just “[Maximize x, y and z.](#)” (Note: I do *not* pick up tel. messages remotely, but do read email multiple times a day. It is almost always better to email me first, before telephoning my office.)

My [Office hour schedule](#) may change slightly during the semester. Other days/times may be available by appointment, sometimes [via Zoom](#).

Class attendance is required, and is non-trivial part of a student's CP, Class participation, grade.

Contacting Prof.K. If you need to get an important message to me (e.g. you'll be missing an in-class exam), it is *particularly important* that you **email me from your UF eddress** as soon as possible; preferably several weeks or days before the exam; several hours before, if you didn't know in advance.

I do *not* pick up office phone messages remotely, so it is important that you email me. If urgent, you should also tel. the math dept, **352-294-2350**, and they can contact me at home. The secretaries can also put a note in my mailbox if you request it. [All these tel.numbers are *wired phones*; they do not take text-messages.]

IMPORTANT: I will primarily use **email** for contacting students, *not* Canvas-mail. I ask that students read email *at least* twice a day morning/evening (excepting for religious observance).

IMPORTANT: Students will be typesetting solutions to problems and will need a real **computer**; a cellphone does not suffice. Also, students will need access to a **printer**, as some of the typeset assignments will need to be handed-in on paper (not electronically).

As some office-hours will be via [Zoom](#), students will need [Zoom](#)-capability.

Prof.K's clickable links:

- [Teaching Page](#) <http://squash.1gainesville.com/teaching.html> Has important info for *all* my courses. Gives links to *Putnam competition*, *Robert Long essay competition*, links to the free mathematical typesetting language **T_EX/L_AT_EX**.

The Teaching Page also has an extensive list of:

Usually Useful Pamphlets.

Our LinA Webpage:

• <http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html> Info for the current semester, as well as links to previous versions (see [Nostalgia](#)) of LinA, containing previous exams and microquizzes, for your studying pleasure!

• Prof. King's page at UF <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/squash/> has a link to the *Robert Long essay competition*.

• Prof.K schedule & office hours

<http://squash.1gainesville.com/info.jksched.html>

• Math Dept. homepage <http://math.ufl.edu/>. Searchable. A wealth of information on applying to grad school, seminars, conferences, faculty, staff, grad listings, tutors for hire.

University resources, clickable:

- * UF syllabus policy <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/squash/univ-syllabus-policy/>
- * Accommodation for students with disabilities <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>
- * UF Teaching Center <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/> has free tutoring, both in-person and via zoom.
- * Writing Studio <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> 2215 Turlington, 352-846-1138.
- * The UF Help desk <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> 352-392-4357.
- * End-of-Semester student evals of professors <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

LOR: Letter-of-recommendation. I base LORs substantially on how a student “thinks on his/her feet”

I require **two** courses with me, at least one of which is *proof-based*, as well as the student actively participating in class. (Occasionally, one course may suffice if it is a **graduate course** or a **Special Topics** course, e.g, my **MATHEMATICAL CRYPTOGRAPHY** course.)

Microquizzes. There will be some number of “pop” (unannounced) microquizzes (**MQ**), each worth **30** points. (Just handing-in the MQ with name and ordinal earns **5** points.)

MQs never occur on religious holidays; **email me** of all such religious dates by the first Wedn. after Add/Drop.

Usually, a pop-quiz has a single, easy question. I use them partly for attendance, and checking that an idea from the previous class caught on.

IMPORTANT: I *drop* the lowest microquiz score. AND: There is **No makeup** for the first missed MQ, regardless of reason; that is what the dropped-score is for.

If a 2nd MQ is missed, I may give a make-up, if there was an emergency or if I knew in advance (e.g, you are giving a talk at a conference, and you let me know well in advance). \square

Class Archive. We will all use our **LinA Archive**, a LISTSERV, to communicate to the whole class.

Once Add/Drop has ended, I will email out how to post-to/read-from our **Archive**, which plays the role of a **LinA Wikipedia** that students build during the semester, acting as a reference for everyone in class.

Students will be posting problem-solutions to the **Archive**, as part of their **CP** (Class Participation) grade.

Canvas. Canvas will be used for recording grades, but not much else. We will primarily use *email* and our class Archive (a LISTSERV) to communicate with each other outside of class.

End-of-Semester Games Party! If COVID *et al* stays low, then we will have an *End-of-Semester Games Party*. (We might also have a “team building” *Games Party* mid-semester.) In the past, the Games Party has been on the last date of class, at Pascal’s Cafe, in the

Christian Study Center of Gainesville
112 NW 16th Street

Abbreviations. **MQ**, Microquiz. **OH**, Office-Hour. **CP**, Class participation. **IP**, Individual Project. **IOP**, Individual Optional Project. **RLEC**, Robert Long Essay Competition.

RLEC. Each year, students who like to write short essays may enter the *Robert Long Essay Competition*. The RLEC has a monetary prize and, more importantly, looks great on a CV.

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 7th period [13:55-14:45] in
See Prof. K’s calendar:

LIT402. <http://squash.1gainesville.com/info.jksched.html>

Specific LinA information:

LinA is an introduction to Linear Algebra, with emphasis on finite-dimensional spaces.

Texts: The official text is the 5th-edition of **Linear Algebra**, by **Friedberg, Insel, Spence**. However, the 4th or 3rd edition is fine. This is a good text, well worth owning.

A picture of the cover is on our course webpage

Course Page: [LinA](http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html)

<http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html>

Course/Room. MAS4105 3247 (14608) [Linear.Algebra.1](http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html)

MTWF6 in MAT 007 Prof. King / Aaron Thrasher

The class meets in **Matherly Hall**, room **7** on MTWF at **6th period**, 12:50-13:40.

CP grades. Each of Jan., Feb., Mar. (and a part-score for Apr.) has a **CP**, **Class participation**, **45pt** grade based on speaking in class, attending OHs (sometimes via Zoom), and *especially* posting solns to non-trivial problems to our **Archive**. A typical grade is **20**.

MQ grades. Each microquiz is **30**pts. Typically, MQs are not announced. A MQ usually has a single routine question. The *lowest MQ score* is dropped; **there is no makeup for the first missed MQ**.

The classday following an in-class exam usually has an MQ with a slight variation of a question from the exam.

NOTE: *There will be a MQ the classday before, and the classday after, Spring Break.*

(continued...)

Exams, Autumn 2023: Each of the 3 exams is ≈ 200 pts.

IMPORTANT: Occasionally an exam needs to be moved a class-day *later*, or a class-day *earlier*. Since that is a class-day, I do *not* [baring extenuating circumstances] give a makeup if you miss class and the exam that day.

IMPORTANT: There is a **MQ** on the classday after each exam, with a simple question related to the exam.

Class R: **Wedn., 27Sep2023.**

Class S: **Wedn., 25Oct.**

Class T: **Wedn, 15Nov.**

Grade-*estimate* on Canvas on weekend of **18,19Nov.**

There will be MQs on the classdays before and after **Thanksgiving Break, 22-25Nov.**

Withdraw-date: **Monday, 20Nov.**

Last classday: **Wedn., 06Dec; Games Party!.**

Typeset LinA **INDIVIDUAL OPTIONAL PROJECT** (**IOP**)
available morning of **28 November**.

Due **Thur, 07Dec. by 2PM**, slid completely under my office door, **LIT402**.

Sincerely, Prof. King [LinearAlg]