

# Math 550H - Honors Vector Analysis

## Supplementary Covid-19 Syllabus, Spring 2020

**Instructor:** Frank Thorne

**Office:** Well.... crap.

**Office Hours:** Tue 9:00-10:30, Wed 3:30-5:00, and by request

**Email:** thorne@math.sc.edu

**Website:** <http://people.math.sc.edu/thornef/math550/>

### I. Class Meetings

Classes will continue to meet MWF 9:40-10:30, in a synchronous online format. Please show up early, especially at first, to make sure the technology is working appropriately. I will hang around afterwards to answer any questions.

Our first meeting will use Blackboard Collaborate Ultra. Depending on how things go, we'll either stick with this or try something else.

### II. Textbook

We will continue using Colley's *Vector Calculus*, Third Edition. If you don't have access to your book (e.g. you left it in the dorms), please buy another one. *Sorry, this sucks*, but there are copies for less than \$15 available on Amazon. I hope it is not too much of a burden.

If for some reason this is impossible, please let me know.

### III. Topics

We will have to scale back our expectations a little bit – we lost a week of class, fiddling with technology will take up time, and the stress is taking a toll on all of us – but our goal is still to cover the classical main theorems of vector analysis in detail. The plan is still to cover at least 5.5, 6.1-6.3, and 7.1-7.4. If there is time, I hope to cover Chapter 8 as well.

### IV. Recordings

It is my intention to record all the lectures and make them available over the Internet.

You are strongly urged to attend class at 9:40-10:30 if at all possible: this, in my view, will help to build a community, and help reinforce our mutual commitment to have a good learning experience. That said, stuff happens, internet connections fizzle, etc.

There might be technical issues with recording, especially at first. Also, the university has requested that all videos be captioned. I hope that this can be done automatically, but if not then I might ask for help.

### V. Office Hours

Office hours will still be held Tuesdays 9:00-10:30 and Wednesdays 3:30-5:00. My Skype name is `thorne.frank2`, and I will be logged in and available for calls. I can also use other software including Zoom or Blackboard if that works for you. (If you own a tablet computer + pencil, this will allow you to write math.) I will also check my email especially frequently during this period.

### VI. Exams

The plan for the remaining exams is:

- The **first midterm** was handed out already, and is due March 29. The format won't change.

- For the **second midterm**, it's already late in the semester, everyone is stressed out, and we missed a week of class. So the **second midterm will be optional**. The format will be the same, and I recommend everyone do it and hand it in: if the grade helps you then it will be included; if it hurts you then it will be thrown out.
- For the **final exam**, there might be official guidance forthcoming from the university. Otherwise, my intent is to make it take home, 2 1/2 hours but otherwise the same as the midterms, and due at the end of the finals period.

## VII. Deadlines

Under the circumstances, I do not intend to be especially strict with deadlines. If you need an extension, please let me know in advance.

## VIII. Handing in assignments

To hand in assignments, you can take photos of your work (please make sure they are clear!). Please, if possible, collate your work into a single PDF file and send it to me by email.

## IX. VERY IMPORTANT

During these difficult times, it is very important that we keep lines of communication open! I have never taught online before. It may be that I speak too quietly for you to hear, or that you can't read my handwriting, or (...?) Please bring issues like these to my attention, and I'll try to fix them.

Maybe you are having persistent problems with your internet connection. Perhaps some of you will be too distressed to concentrate. Perhaps – *I pray not* – some of us will have ill relatives. These issues, I can't do much about – but please at least let me know.

Alternatively, perhaps other instructors have good ideas which you think might work in our class as well. No matter your thoughts or concerns, **please share them**. It's my job to help you get through the rest of the semester, so hold me to it!