Math 138A
Winter 2006
R. Schultz

GENERAL REMARKS

There is a separate course outline that lists the course topics and keys them to the course text (O'Neill, *Elementary Differential Geometry*).

Contact information. My office is Surge 221, and it is around the corner from the Department's administrative front desk (Surge 202). Normally I am available in my office between 10 and 11 on Fridays, and at other times by appointment. My telephone number is 951-827-6459 (as usual, suppress the area code from inside the 951 region, and also replace the 827 by a 2 if calling from an extension at UCR). Another highly recommended option is electronic mail; my full address is `schultz@math.ucr.edu`. Use of electronic mail is often easier than trying to play telephone tag. **IMPORTANT:** The default filters for electronic mail on the Department network are not very restrictive and I receive an enormous amount of garbage in my electronic mailbox (100 per day sometimes!). Therefore I **strongly recommend** that you include something like Math 138A in the subject heading so that your message does not get inadvertently deleted without being read. Also, since the authors of junk messages often use only capital letters in their subject headings, this should be avoided as well.

Grading policy: There will be two in-class examinations, each of which will count 25 per cent of the course grade, there will be a final examination that will count for 40 per cent, and two quizzes will count for 10 per cent.

Tentatively the midterm examinations for the course are scheduled for Monday, February 6, and Friday, March 3. The final examination is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, and it might be part take home and part in-class (with a later starting time!). Quizzes are tentatively scheduled for January 23 and February 20 (both Tuesdays).

Students are responsible for knowing how to do all the exercises listed on the course homework file. Some solutions (or sketches) and hints will be posted.

Course handouts and notes: All printed handouts for the course will be available on the Department computer network and from the web site

`http://www.math.ucr.edu/~res`

in the subdirectory `math138A`. Older versions of some files are stored in the directory `winter04`; there are significant difference between the current course and the earlier one, most notably in the change of texts. All course files involving text are available in Acrobat PDF formats; many are available in PostScript or Microsoft Word formats also. The `pdf` versions can be opened,downloaded, read or printed with the free Acrobat readers that are either already available or easily installed on most PC's these days, and versions also exist for other systems such as Apple Computers or Unix.

IMPORTANT. (1) *Please contact me immediately if you have problems viewing or printing out any of these files.*

(2) *These files are only intended for classroom purposes and are not meant for widespread public circulation.*

Discussion sessions: In addition to the three meetins with the primary instructor each week, there are discussion sections that are scheduled for one hour each week. Further information will be made available at discussion section meetings.

Primary class sessions: Student questions are encouraged. Please do not hesitate to ask questions, especially if you do not understand something or if something in the lecture seems wrong — even if everyone else seems to understand.

Questions on homework or review are generally best answered at the beginning of class. In general these are encouraged, but in some cases it might be necessary to limit such question periods.