Syllabus for Abstract Vector Spaces, Math 2406, Fall 2006

August 16, 2006

Instructor: Ernie Croot

Meeting Times and Place: MWF 3:05-3:55, Skiles 270.

Textbook: Linear Algebra, a First Course with Applications to Differential Equations, by T. M. Apostol.

Grade Calculation: I will use the standard 90-100 is an A, 80-89 is a B, 70-79 is a C, 60-69 is a D, and anything below 60 is an F.

You grade in the class will be based on your performance on homeworks (30% of your grade), two midterms (20% for each midterm), and a final exam (30% of your grade).

Missed Exams: There will be no makeup exams given. If you miss an exam, I will redistribute the weight of your other exams to make up the difference. For example, say you miss a midterm (valid excuse needed). Say your average on the other midterm is 80%. Then, your midterm grade will be 80 points, and then applying the rule that 40% of your final grade comes from midterms, that gives 32 percentage points (out of 100) towards your final grade.

In order to have your missed exams be filled in by performance on the other exams, you must present, in writing, good evidence for why you were unable to take the exam (such as doctor’s note or funeral notice).

Course Material: I plan to cover Chapters 2 through 7, and then some of chapters 8 and 9. The emphasis will be more on rigor and understanding
of the mathematics, than on doing computations. That said, it should be a very fun and interesting course, and I expect everyone should find the pace of the course comfortable.