

Differential Equations • MATH 310 • Guidelines for Homeworks

Basic Principles:

- the point of written work (not just math310) is to communicate ideas to the reader.
- the quality of this communication also reflects on your level of understanding.
- in evaluating your own work, focus on: clarity, conciseness & correctness.
- **clarity:** use keywords to explain, not just algebra; organize around key ideas; produce clearly labelled plots & graphics . . .
- **conciseness:** streamline your presentation, don't just "dump some math"; eliminate unilluminating algebraic steps, . . .
- **correctness:** need I say more? identify simple checks, . . .

Rules:

- work must be legible.
- submit homework in lecture on Fridays.
- for the benefit of the graders, begin each new problem at the top of a new page. Clearly identify each problem.
- attach cover sheet to the front of your homework.
- to be eligible for grading, homeworks MUST BE STAPLED TOGETHER.
- put boxes around key results & underline key statements.
- end each problem with one sentence stating what was learned from working the example.

Hints & Tips:

- consider your colleagues to be the target readership.
- elementary steps should not be shown, use a written description instead (eg. *... solving this linear system in x and y gives ...*).
- reference text & lecture notes to clarify your approach.
- acknowledge collaboration, hints or assistance from colleagues.
- label figures completely, identify the important features (don't leave it to the reader to find). You should write directly on your plots.
- on computed graphics, state all necessary equations & parameters on the plot (the reader should be able to reproduce the plot).
- do not submit matlab/maple scripts, only the output results.