amsppt   **Subject:** Information about **Math 226**

From: A. Alexandrou Himonas

For: The Undergraduate Committee

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1. Syllabus: Attached.

2. Comments about course content:

The content is excellent.

3. Name of Textbook and comments about its quality:

For the differential equations part we used th Textbook of W.E. Boyce and R.C. DiPrima: Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems, Wiley, Sixth Edition. It is a very good book. For the linear algebra part we used the "Lecture Notes in Linear Algebra"of J. Derwent and A.A. Himonas.

4. Are computers used in the teaching, homework, and in which way? Should computers be incorporated in this course?

Mathematica Notebooks were used for demonstrations in class and for some Homework problems. The students were familiar with Mathematica thanks to Dennis Snow who taught them math 225 before.

5. What is the pace of teaching in this course? Fast? Slow? About right?

The pace is very fast.

6. How are the Teaching Assistants doing in this course? Any suggestion for a better use of the TA's?

The TA, Laurentiou Lazarovici, gave help sessions, and helped in grading the Quizes, and the Exams.

7. How is the testing and grading done in this course? Any suggestions for improvements?

The course grade was based on the following points:
- Exam 1   100 points
- Exam 2   100 points
- Quizzes   100 points
- Homework   50 points
- Final Exam   150 points
- **Total score** 500 points

A 10 min. quiz was given every Monday based on the material taught the week before. The Quizes and Exams were non-multiple choice.

8. What are the failing rates in this course?

There were 69 Math 226 students. Most were very good, and none failed the course. Only one dropped it.

9. Specific suggestions you may have for the next teacher of this course:

Since there is a lot of material in this course, a careful planning is required for the completion of the syllabus.