

Math 185A: Complex Variables Course Syllabus

UC Davis, Spring 2024

Instructor: Dan Romik

Document version: April 9, 2024 (updated TA office hours from earlier version dated March 28)

1 Contact information

- Dan Romik: romik@math.ucdavis.edu
- Arthur Kalb: ajkalb@math.ucdavis.edu
- Yu Hin (Addie) Chan: yuhchan@math.ucdavis.edu

2 Summary

- **Course lectures:** MWF 12:10-1:00, Wellman 212
- **Course instructor:** Dan Romik
- **Course TAs:** Arthur Kalb, Yu Hin (Addie) Chan
- **Office hours:**
 - **Instructor office hours:** Tue 1:10-2, MSB¹ 2218
 - **TA office hours:** Arthur: Mon 11-12, MSB 3129; Addie: Fri 3:30-4:30, MSB 2107
- **Course assignments:** Weekly homework (30%), 2 midterm exams (40%), and a final exam (30%). See the grading policy in Section 6 below for exam dates and other important details.
- **Course prerequisites:** as described in the [Mathematics Department MAT185A syllabus](#)
- **Course topics:** as described in the [Mathematics Department MAT185A syllabus](#)

3 Course textbook

- Complex Variables and Applications, Ninth Ed. by Churchill and Brown.

¹MSB = Mathematical Sciences Building

4 Homework

Homework will be assigned weekly on each Wednesday during weeks 1–9 of the quarter, and will be due the following Wednesday. In calculating the homework component of your grade, the three lowest assignment grades (which includes any missed assignments) will be dropped.

Late homework policy. You may submit one homework assignment during the quarter late by up to 24 hours beyond the indicated submission deadline. Such a late submission will be graded without any penalty. For any additional late submissions that are late by up to 24 hours, the assignment will be graded but a 25% late submission grade penalty will be applied. **No homework submissions will be accepted more than 24 hours after the submission deadline.**

Regrade requests. Submit requests for regrading of homework or midterm questions via Gradescope. Regrade requests will not be considered if submitted more than 2 weeks after you get your graded assignment back, or after the last day of instruction of the quarter (June 6). Note that the option for regrading is there only to correct genuine grading mistakes. In case of a purely subjective disagreement over how many points should be deducted for a less-than-fully-correct solution, your grade will not be changed.

There will be no regrading for the final exam, but if you believe a clerical error occurred with the grading of your final or with the calculation of your final course grade, email the instructor.

5 Exams

There will be two midterm exams and a final exam. Midterm exams will be given at the regular lecture time and place on the day of the exam. The final exam will be given according to the campus [final exam schedule](#). The exam dates and times are:

- Midterm 1: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 12:10-1:00 PM, Olson 106
- Midterm 2: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 12:10-1:00 PM, Olson 106
- Final exam: Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 8:00-10:00 AM, Olson 106

6 Grading structure and policy

Your final grade will be determined based on the weighted average of your different grade components (homework, midterm 1, midterm 2, final exam) according to the weighting scheme:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Homework: | 30% |
| Higher of the two midterm grades: | 25% |
| Lower of the two midterm grades: | 15% |
| Final exam: | 30% |

The numerical weighted average, represented on a scale of 0-100, will be translated into a final letter grade at the end of the quarter, according to the following table of grade cutoffs:*

| A final numerical average of ... | ... will translate to a final letter grade of ... |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 90–100 | A–, A or A+ |
| 80–89.999 | B–, B or B+ |
| 65–79.999 | C–, C or C+ |
| 0–64.999 | F |

* A disclaimer: at my discretion, the actual grade cutoffs may end up being shifted from the ones described above, but only in the direction that results in final letter grades being even higher than the ones listed above. But this most probably won't happen, and you should not count on it happening.

Example. A student named Darya received the scores 55, 77, 100, 95, 0, 35, 80, 0, 60 out of 100 on the homework assignments. She got the scores 91, 96 on the midterm exams, and a score of 79 on the final exam. (All scores are out of 100.)

Darya's final numerical score will be

$$0.3 \times \left(\frac{\overbrace{55 + 77 + 100 + 95 + 80 + 60}^{\text{homework}}}{6} \right) + \overbrace{0.25 \times 96 + 0.15 \times 91}^{\text{midterms}} + \overbrace{0.3 \times 79}^{\text{final}} = 84.7.$$

This puts Darya in the B–, B, B+ range of final letter grades.

IMPORTANT NOTE: No make-up exams or assignments will be given for any reason.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you missed an exam or assignment due to an excused medical absence or similar emergency, and I will determine (at my discretion) if an adjustment to the grading formula above is appropriate.

For other reasons for missed assignments or exams, please note that the grading policy already makes allowance for the possibility of missing the occasional assignment by dropping the lowest assignment scores, so no additional allowance or adjustments to the grading scheme will be made.

7 Ethics policy

- You are expected to be aware of the [UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct](#) and comply with it. Any violation will be reported to the [Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs](#).
- You are allowed to use any online resource and computer software, including AI chatbots such as ChatGPT, for assistance when solving homework assignments. However, your solution must be typed or handwritten by you and phrased in your own words. Also, be advised that AI chatbots are known to sometimes give incorrect answers, particularly to technical questions. Naturally, do not expect to get credit for an incorrect solution.

8 Students with disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the [Student Disability Center](#) (SDC). Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the SDC. If you have any questions, please contact the SDC at 530-752-3184 or sdc@ucdavis.edu.