

Welcome to
MATH 2111 - Ordinary differential equations
Fall term 2025

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Monica Ilie

- **Contact info:** RB 2019 ★ ph: 766-7224 ★ *milie@lakeheadu.ca*
- **Office hours:** Monday/Wednesday 9:30-10:30

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course you will be able to translate various real life problems from biology, chemistry, physics into diverse mathematical models that involve ordinary differential equations. Then, using the tools developed in the first part of the course you will be able to recognize the type of ordinary differential equation and choose a proper method of solving it. You will have a good grasp of what is a general solution and what is a particular solution to an ordinary differential equation.

This course provides a large catalog of differential equations with their methods as well as applications to real world problems, all possible with a solid grasp of calculus methods, integration and differentiation. As a result, your calculus skills will also be improved by using them every day.

COURSE INFORMATION:

- **Class time:** Monday/Wednesday 1:00- 2:15
- **Tests:** There will be two tests, in class
Test 1: Wednesday, October 8th
Test 2: Wednesday, November 12th
- **Suggested Textbook:** *Differential equations with boundary value problems* by Dennis G. Zill and Warren S. Wright, 8th or 9th edition.
- **Grading:** Your final grade will be determined according to

WebWork Assignments	Test 1	Test 2	Final Exam
5%	25%	30%	40%

- **Website:** Course website : mycourselink.lakeheadu.ca

SYLLABUS

The topics to be covered are, tentatively the following: Chapter 1.1-1.3; Chapter 2: 2.2- 2.5; Chapter 3: 3.1, 3.2; Chapter 4: 4.1-4.7; Chapter 5: 5.1-5.2; Chapters 6: 6.1-6.4.

MISSED FINAL EXAM POLICIES (University Regulations)

In cases where a student misses a formal examination due to an incapacitating illness, the student must have the Certificate of Illness or Incapacitation completed by a Medical Professional and submit the completed form to Enrolment Services no later than three (3) working days after the date of the original final examination. The Certificate of Illness or Incapacitation must be dated as seen by the Medical Professional no later than one (1) working day after the examination.

In other exceptional circumstances, official supporting documentation must be provided (e.g. copy of a death certificate or letter from the funeral home).

Accommodation shall be granted only when the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness or other circumstances are such that the student could not have reasonably been expected to complete the examination on the scheduled date.

University Regulations *Students will not be given another opportunity to write the examination if it is missed a second time. In some cases, when extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's control prevent him/her from completing the rescheduled examination, a student may be eligible to petition Enrolment Services to explain the circumstances.*

A friendly piece of advice: don't book your plane ticket home until the final exam schedule is published. A booked flight is not an acceptable excuse for missing an exam.

LECTURE POLICIES

- **Attendance** I strongly recommend that you come to class. I would appreciate the fact that you show up on time; arriving late disturbs both me and your fellow classmates.
- **Cellphone use policy:** To support focus and learning, cell phone use during class is restricted. Phones must be silenced and stored out of

sight. Research shows that even when not in use, the mere presence of a smartphone can reduce cognitive capacity and impair performance on attention and memory tasks. Below are some recent articles on this topic if you are interested:

1. Skowronek, J., Seifert, A. & Lindberg, S. The mere presence of a smartphone reduces basal attentional performance. *Sci Rep.* 2023 Jun 8;13(1)
2. Liu, W., Kawashima, T. & Shinohara, K. (2023). Effects of cell phone presence on the control of visual attention during the Navon task. *BMC Psychology.* 11.
3. Kaminske, A., Brown, A., Aylward, A. & Haller, M. (2022). Cell phone notifications harm attention: An exploration of the factors that contribute to distraction. *European Journal of Educational Research*, 11(3), 1487-1494.

ACCOMODATIONS

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit: <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca>

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **September 15, 2025** last day for registration
- **November 7, 2025** last date for course withdrawal without academic penalty
- **December 15, 2025** contingency date (all exams that are missed by the closure of the university during the exam period, due to unforeseen circumstances, will be rescheduled this day)