

Hi,

My name is Randy Scott (You'll call me Mr. Scott because I'm old enough to be your grandfather) and I'll be your instructor for Math 295, Differential Equations, #92516. Our first Zoom class meeting is Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 6:35 pm (1835 hrs). You will enter the Zoom class meeting through the course Canvas site.

Class in the era of COVID-19 will be very similar to our regular face-to-face classes. Your **ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED** (and part of your course grade) every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 1835-2000 hrs. If you miss class meetings, then you will be dropped from the class. When we are Zooming, you must resist the many temptations that become easier to indulge when someone is not directly watching over you. Using your phone, watching YouTube, sleeping, and playing games are all distractions waiting to happen. When you sign in to our scheduled Zoom classes, do your best to behave as you would in a classroom setting being run by a grumpy old man.

Before we meet for the first day of class, I'd like for you to complete **four** tasks:

1. *Reply to this email* (This means to click "Reply" on your email app.) and tell me when and where you took your previous math course. In addition, tell me something interesting about yourself. (Do this now. If you are a procrastinator like me, take a deep breath and do this now.)

2. I'd like for you to watch the following video on [YouTube](#) with the intention of learning about differential equations. Listen for mentions of many mathematical concepts that you learned about in Calculus I, II, and III: derivatives, integrals, arbitrary constants and initial conditions, arc length, partial derivatives, velocity and acceleration vectors, vector fields, vector functions given by parametric equations, and curl and divergence.

3Blue1Brown Differential Equations, Studying the Unsolvable

(Click the above link. If the link doesn't work, navigate to YouTube and search for "3Blue1Brown Differential Equations, Studying the Impossible")

The video is about 25 minutes long. Please block out enough time to watch and listen without distractions.

3. We will be using an open source (free) textbook and computer algebra system this semester. please navigate to

The Ordinary Differential Equations Project

and download the "Full Text, 2020 edition" in whatever format you prefer to use so you are ready to begin using the text on the first day of class. You may also wish to investigate the two links at the bottom of the page: Sage and The SageMath Cloud. (If the links do not work (go figure), search for "The Ordinary Differential Equations Project" and you'll find the site.)

4. Navigate to my SCC website www.sccollege.edu/rscott and from the Math 295 menu on the left side of the page please download the "Math 295 Calc Rev for DEs" and do what it says, and have your review work ready for submission through Canvas before 1835 hrs (6:35 pm) on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

I look forward to meeting and working with you all this semester. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me.

Sincerely,

Mr Scott