Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

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About LaTeX

LaTeX is an open source document typesetting program that is free to use. You can use LaTeX to typeset any sort of mathematical or scientific document. The complexity of your document is unbounded!

For our course, please download and install MikTeX then TeXStudio.

Course Information

CRN: 33623
The course is entirely online and will run the first five to six weeks of the term. This course also requires the use of a computer connected to the internet. Students can choose to work entirely online at sharelatex.com or students can opt to use free downloadable software (MikTeX and TeXStudio).

Course Description:

Explores the power of LaTeX for use at school, home, or the workplace for mathematical documents and other applications.

Course Outcomes

1. Compose Mathematical documents, presentations, and reports using LaTeX and various templates acquired from the course.

2. Access CTAN and other resources to obtain additional LaTeX packages.

Course Grading

This course will be grading as Pass/No Pass only. To pass the course, you must earn at least 15 points, with at least 2 points from Document 5.

Each module of the course will require you to make a posting of your completed document. Each document will have a set of minimum requirements that will be specified on the assignment page. Once you have uploaded the requirement document, I will score it and give you feedback. **If you wish to improve your score, you may resubmit your document!**

Module Points

Mod 1   4
Mod 2   4
Mod 3   4
Mod 4   4
Mod 5   4
Total   20 pts
Each document will be assessed according to the following rubric:

Points Comments

Points	Comments
4**	An excellent document that is easy to read and to understand and that meets all the minimum requirements. This document compiles without errors and no changes are needed. In addition, formatting of your LaTeX code is excellent, using white space, carriage returns, and indents.
3**	There are some compiling errors or perhaps some editing/reformatting is required. The document meets all the minimum requirements.
2	Several compilation errors exist or the document lacks one of the minimum requirements of the assignment.
1	Several compilation errors exist and the document lacks at least one of the minimum requirements of the assignment.
0	Your document has too many errors to give you any feedback or several minimal requirements have not been met. This score is also given when you have submitted no document.

** Important Note Regarding Your Documents

In order to earn a "3" or a "4" each week, your document must contain some aspect of LaTeX that you have researched on your own and that is not included in the week's text from the course. Students almost always find something simply by asking "How do I ...?" and with a quick search of ShareLaTeX, can find the code. Please point this out in your document and show off what you have learned! I expect that you will use others' code in your assignments, but you must adapt the code, not replicate it. *Anytime you use code that you found on the internet, you must cite it and explain what you've done differently.*

Late Assignments

In this course, you are expected to turn in only five documents, one per week. In addition, your document will be part of the learning done by your classmates. It is essential that you have your work turned in so that everyone can see the feedback.

But the course is graded as P/NP and I do not want late work to keep you from passing. Please limit yourself to at most one late assignment and while more will not be penalized, I will contact you if there are more than two and discuss other options for you to learn LaTeX.

Discussion and Email Etiquette

Please use the rules of "Netiquette" ("on line etiquette") to ensure you communicate successfully in the online environment.

- Write a meaningful subject line for your email and message board contributions so others will know what to expect.
- Notice that when you reply to a discussion post, you can change the subject line if appropriate to something more meaningful.
- Be polite and respectful. It can be tempting to let yourself go in an environment that feels anonymous, but remember that there are real people reading your messages. Good online manners are vital to a productive and supportive online learning environment. A useful test for anything you're about to post or mail is to ask yourself, "Would I say this to the person's face?" If the answer is no, re-write and re-read.
- Be tolerant of views expressed by others. Your LBCC online classroom may well bring you into contact with people from all over the world. Keep in mind that you probably have something to gain from exposure to views and backgrounds different than your own.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Again, remember that there are real people on the other end.
- Be careful when using sarcasm and humor, and don't include any obscenities in your messages. Because the receiver cannot see your face or body language, they may misinterpret the shades of meaning in the messages. They may misinterpret your remark, and you never know who may be offended by expressions that are commonplace to you.
- Avoid using all capital letters, which are interpreted as shouting.
- Don't send commercial advertisements or "chain mail" to your classmates.
- If you want to post a message only to one person, send a private email message instead of posting to the discussion board.
- The discussion board is not a chat room. Use standard English grammar and spelling, not abbreviated chat language.
- A discussion board is a place for you to develop your ideas more completely. Unless your instructor tells you to do otherwise, you should expect to post messages of substance, not simply respond by saying "I agree."

CFAR Statement

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the CFAR Website for steps on how to apply for services. Online course accommodations may be different than those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you make contact with CFAR as soon as possible.

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