

# Math 2306 Glossary Building Assignment

Fall 2021

*Research indicates that math is the most difficult content area material to read, with more concepts per word, per sentence, and per paragraph than any other area. V. Schell (1982)*

This assignment is a project that you will work on over the course of the semester. You will build your own glossary of terms and phrases that are critical to the study and application of Differential Equations. Writing down these terms (phrases) along with their meanings will help you to gain familiarity with the language commonly used in the study of differential equations so that you can both read and write confidently.

**Instructions:** Create a glossary of terms and phrases that are commonly used in differential equations. Your final product should be typed. Feel free to use whatever word processor, spreadsheet, or type setting tool you prefer. Each entry in your glossary should consist of

- The term or phrase with a formal definition (such as you would find in a text book),
- an informal (i.e. in your *own words*) definition or explanation of its meaning, and
- an illustration or other aid (i.e. a figure, an example of what it is, a comparison with something else, etc.)

Over the course of the semester, you will encounter terms or phrases to add to your glossary. You will notice these while reading the lecture notes (they often appear in bold or in colored boxes). I will occasionally highlight things during class that you can add to your glossary.

There are many terms that will be defined in this class, and we will use these terms and phrases regularly. These should go in your glossary. So it's expected that everyone's glossary will be roughly the same size (or have close to the same number of entries). However, this is your creation. The informal definitions and ways you choose to illustrate concepts are up to you. There may be differences in what gets included between different students. You are welcomed to collaborate with classmates on this project to some extent. However, copying entire entries from another student is considered plagiarism and will be treated as an act of academic dishonesty.

**What To Turn In:** Your final product will be turned in as a single PDF that you will upload to an Assignment in D2L. In addition, you will turn in drafts of your glossary periodically. Your drafts and final glossary will contribute to your grade on this project. The due dates and grade weights are shown below.

- Draft 1: Due Friday September 3 @ noon (10%)
- Draft 2: Due Friday October 1 @ noon (20%)
- Draft 3: Due Friday October 29 @ noon (20%)
- Final Product: Due Monday December 6 by 5:00 pm (50%)