Course: Math 54 - Partial Differential Equations
Instructor: Dr. Nsoki Mavinga
Office/Hours: SC 155; Monday and Wednesday 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM (or by appointment)
Phone: (610) 957-6197
E-mail: mavinga@swarthmore.edu

Meeting times/location: MWF 9:30 AM – 10:20 AM, SC 104


Aims of the course:
This course is an introduction to linear partial differential equations of elliptic, parabolic, and hyperbolic type via the Laplace equation, the heat equation, and the wave equation. We will study solutions to these equations and their (qualitative) properties.

Grading: The course grade will comprise the following:
- presentations (15%)
- (graded) homework (20%)
- 1 midterm (25%)
- comprehensive final examination (40%)

Homework:
Homework will be assigned weekly. It will be announced/distributed in class or posted to Moodle later on in the day. Part of the assignment will be collected and graded, and the rest will be presented by the students in class. Sometimes I will call on you; sometimes I will let you volunteer what problems you want to present. Each student will be responsible for at least two presentations during the semester. You can and should work together on homework assignments but the work you turn in should be your own. Since the homework grade constitutes 20% of your course grade, it is strongly recommended that you attend classes on a regular basis and complete all homework assignments when due. Late assignments will not be accepted.
Midterm:
There is one midterm exam which you will take the week before Spring Break. It will have two parts; Part 1 in class and Part 2 take-home.

Final Examination:
Note that the final exam will be a comprehensive take-home examination. It is open-note and open-book, but you may not seek help from other individuals.

Special Accommodation: If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Leslie Hempling in the Office of Student Disability Services, located in Parrish 130, or e-mail lhempli1 to set up an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. Leslie Hempling is responsible for reviewing and approving disability-related accommodation requests and, as appropriate, she will issue students with documented disabilities an Accommodation Authorization Letter. Since accommodations may require early planning and are not retroactive, please contact her as soon as possible. For details about the Student Disabilities Service and the accommodations process, visit http://www.swarthmore.edu/x7687.xml.