

# MA3D9-15 Geometry of Curves & Surfaces

26/27

**Department**

Warwick Mathematics Institute

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Weiyi Zhang

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

Multiple

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This will be an introduction to some of the "classical" theory of differential geometry, as illustrated by the geometry of curves and surfaces lying (mostly) in 3-dimensional space. The manner in which a curve can twist in 3-space is measured by two quantities: its curvature and torsion. The case a surface is rather more subtle. For example, we have two notions of curvature: the gaussian curvature and the mean curvature. The former describes the intrinsic geometry of the surface, whereas the latter describes how it bends in space. The gaussian curvature of a cone is zero, which is why we can make a cone out of a flat piece of paper. The gaussian curvature of a sphere is strictly positive, which is why planar maps of the earth's surface invariably distort distances. One can relate these geometric notions to topology, for example, via the so-called Gauss-Bonnet formula. This is mostly mathematics from the first half of the nineteenth century, seen from a more modern perspective. It eventually leads on to the very general theory of manifolds.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

To gain an understanding of Frenet formulae for curves, the first and second fundamental forms of

surfaces in 3-space, parallel transport of vectors and gaussian curvature. To apply this understanding in specific examples.

## Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

N/A

## Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- N/A

## Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

## Subject specific skills

N/A

## Transferable skills

Students will acquire key reasoning and problem solving skills which will empower them to address new problems with confidence.

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## Study

### Study time

| Type          | Required                    |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Lectures      | 30 sessions of 1 hour (20%) |
| Tutorials     | 9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)   |
| Private study | 111 hours (74%)             |
| Total         | 150 hours                   |

### Private study description

Review lectured material and work on set exercises.

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### Assessment group B1

|                                                                           | Weighting | Study time | Eligible for self-certification |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Centrally-timetable examination (On-campus)                               | 100%      |            | No                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Answerbook Gold (24 page)</li></ul> |           |            |                                 |

### Assessment group R

|                                                                           | Weighting | Study time | Eligible for self-certification |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------------|
| In-person Examination - Resit                                             | 100%      |            | No                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Answerbook Gold (24 page)</li></ul> |           |            |                                 |

## Feedback on assessment

Exam feedback.

[Past exam papers for MA3D9](#)

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## Availability

## Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1P0 Postgraduate Taught Mathematics

- TMAA-G1PC Postgraduate Taught Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
  - Year 1 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
  - Year 2 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 3 of UCSA-G4G1 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
- UCSA-G4G3 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
  - Year 3 of G4G1 Discrete Mathematics
  - Year 3 of G4G3 Discrete Mathematics
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G4 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G2 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics with Intercalated Year

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list D for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year
- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list F for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Option list A for:

- TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
  - Year 1 of G1PD Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
  - Year 2 of G1PD Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1P0 Postgraduate Taught Mathematics
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PC Postgraduate Taught Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- UMAA-G105 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 3 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
  - Year 4 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
  - Year 5 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
- Year 3 of UMAA-G100 Undergraduate Mathematics (BSc)
- UMAA-G103 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath)

- Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
- Year 3 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- Year 4 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G107 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study Abroad
- UMAA-G106 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
  - Year 3 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
  - Year 4 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
- Year 3 of UPXA-FG33 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (BSc MMathPhys)
- Year 3 of UPXA-GF13 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (BSc)
- UPXA-FG31 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (MMathPhys)
  - Year 3 of GF13 Mathematics and Physics
  - Year 3 of FG31 Mathematics and Physics (MMathPhys)
- Year 4 of UPXA-GF14 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)
- Year 5 of USTA-G1G4 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat) (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G101 Undergraduate Mathematics with Intercalated Year

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PE Master of Advanced Study in Mathematical Sciences
- Year 3 of USTA-GG14 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc)
- Year 4 of USTA-GG17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)
- Year 4 of USTA-G1G4 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat) (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list E for:

- USTA-G301 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics (with Intercalated
  - Year 3 of G30H Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics (Statistics with Mathematics Stream)
  - Year 4 of G30H Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics (Statistics with Mathematics Stream)
  - Year 5 of G30H Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics (Statistics with Mathematics Stream)