PHYS 6124 Mathematical Methods of Physics I Prof. P. Cvitanović Handout 3 ChaosBook.org/~predrag/courses/PHYS-6124-11 School of Physics 23 August 2011 PREREQUISITES Georgia Tech

In order to take this course you ought to be acquainted with the following topics:

- Calculus of several variables;
- Vector analysis, especially *div*, *grad* and *curl*, including their use in curvilinear coordinate systems; Stokes's theorem and Gauss's theorem (*i.e.*, the divergence theorem);
- Elementary ordinary differential equations, at which you will get some practice for homework;
- Fourier series;
- Integral transforms (e.g., Fourier, Laplace);
- Systems of simultaneous linear algebraic equations; properties of matrices and their determinants; and
- Elementary aspects of complex variables (although I shall try to limit our excursions off the real axis into the complex plane).

Do not panic if you consider your preparation to be inadequate! Give yourself a while to assess the situation, and come and see me if you are seriously concerned.