Stat 4201: Probability
Course Syllabus, Spring 2014

Instructor: David Sivakoff
   Email: dsivakoff@stat.osu.edu
   Office: 440N Cockins Hall
   Office hours: M 11-noon, W 4–5pm, and by appointment (at least 48 hours in advance).

TA: Han Zhang
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   Office: 417 Mathematics Building
   Office Hours: Tu 9:00am–11:00am

Lecture: MWF 3:00–3:55pm in 180 Hagerty Hall

Recitations: It is extremely important that you attend your recitation section. Some weeks recitation will be used to discuss examples, work on problems and answer questions about the homework, while other weeks additional topics may be covered during recitation that are not covered in lecture.
   • Section 1225: W 11:30am–12:25pm in 312 Cockins Hall
   • Section 1226: W 12:40pm–1:35pm in 245 Stillman Hall
   • Section 1228: Tu 11:30am–12:25pm in 436 Bolz Hall
   • Section 1229: Tu 1:50pm–2:45pm in 387 Arps Hall

Course webpage: On Carmen: carmen.osu.edu.


Content
   This is the first course in a two semester sequence on probability and mathematical statistics. The focus will be on introducing some of the basic concepts in probability, including probability spaces, discrete and continuous distributions and densities, expectation, functions of random variables and transformation techniques, sampling distributions, and order statistics.

Homework Quizzes (20%)
   Homework assignments will be posted on the course webpage most weeks, and there will be a short (10 minutes) quiz at the start of lecture on the day the homework is due. Homework will not be collected, and the quiz problem(s) will be taken directly from the homework. You are encouraged to discuss homework problems with other students. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester, so missed quizzes cannot be made up for any reason.

Midterm Exams (25% each)
   There will be two midterm exams, scheduled on Friday, February 7 and Friday, March 7. Both exams are in-class and closed book.

Final Exam (30%)
   The final exam will be comprehensive and is on Friday, December 6 at 10:00–11:45am.
Ethics
All students are expected to adhere to the Ohio State University code of conduct:

trustees.osu.edu/rules/code-of-student-conduct/

You are encouraged to discuss the homework assignments with your classmates and both offer and receive advice. For quizzes, midterm exams and the final exam, you must work completely independently.

Missed Work
Please notify me as soon as possible if you will miss any deadlines or exams due to illness or family emergency. Also, if you know in advance that you will miss an exam due to religious observances or a varsity sport, you must let me know as soon as possible, and at least one week before the exam. Attendance in class is required, and you are responsible for making up for the material covered in class during any absence.

Miscellany

• Learning this material, like anything else, takes time. Allow yourself this time by trying to do a little bit of reading from the textbook and a little bit of problem-solving each day, rather than waiting until a deadline is near. I will not have time to cover everything written in the book, so it is important that you read the text to fill in the gaps.
• Check your email and the course website frequently. I will use the website to post homework assignments, information about the exams, rescheduled office hours, etc.
• Please feel free to approach me with any questions or concerns - my primary goal is to help you learn the material. I hope you enjoy the class!