

MAP 4113.0001 – Probability, Random Processes and Applications

Days & Times: Tue, Thu 4:00–5:50 in MSB 108
Professor: Jason Swanson
Office: MSB 202E
Office Hours: Tue 12:00–1:00, Thu 9:30–10:30, Thu 10:45–12:55
Course webpage: <http://math.swansonsite.com/16w4113>
Textbook: A First Course in Probability, Ninth Edition, Sheldon Ross

Course description: Stochastic phenomena (“stochastic” is simply a synonym for “random”) are studied using a certain class of mathematical models. Probability theory is the branch of mathematics which studies these models. This course will cover the elementary notions and methods of probability theory. From the textbook, we will cover Chapters 1 through 7, and also Sections 8.1–8.3, although we will skip Sections 1.6, 2.6, 5.6, 6.6–6.8, and 7.8–7.9.

Grading: There will be two in-class tests and a comprehensive final exam. The tests are tentatively scheduled for September 27 and October 27. Each test is worth 25%, and the final exam is worth 35%. Homework and quizzes, together, will be worth 15%. The required threshold for an A is 90%; for a B, 80%; for a C, 70%; and for a D, 60%. Below 60% is an F. If necessary, however, these thresholds will be lowered to adjust for the difficulty levels of the tests and final exam.

Homework and quizzes: Homework problems will be assigned regularly throughout the semester. Unless otherwise specified, all the problems assigned during a given week will constitute a single assignment. The assignment itself will not be collected. Rather, a quiz for that assignment will occur on Thursday of the following week. It will be a 20-minute quiz, and take place at the end of class.

Make-Up Policy: There are no make-up tests. In the case of documented absences due to family emergencies, illness or official university functions, the final exam will be used as a make-up exam. There are also no make-up quizzes. To accommodate unavoidable absences, the lowest quiz of the semester will be dropped.

Final exam: The final exam is currently scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2016, from 4:00 pm to 6:50 pm, in MSB 108. If you have taken both in-class tests and your score on the final is greater than your lowest test score, then that test score will be replaced by the average of itself and the score on the final.

Attendance: If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out all information from the class you missed, including any announcements that were made.

Appointment policy: Office hour appointments can be made only during the office hours listed above. Appointments take priority over walk-ins. To ensure being seen during office hours, appointments are highly recommended.