

COURSE INFORMATION FOR 22S:204

Foundations of Probability II

Spring 2008

- INSTRUCTOR** Richard Dykstra
217 Schaeffer Hall
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- OFFICE HOURS** Monday, 1:30-2:30; Wednesday, Friday 3:30-4:30 (or by appointment)
- DEPARTMENT INFORMATION** Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
241 Schaeffer Hall
Phone: 335-0706
- DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE OFFICER** Luke Tierney, 241 Schaeffer Hall
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e-mail: luke-tierney@uiowa.edu
- PREREQUISITES** 22S:203. The course 22S:204 is the second part of the sequence 22S:203-204. It is a continuation of 22S:203, and uses the same text.
- TEXT** The text for this course will be "Probability for Statisticians", by Galen Shorack and is available from the University Bookstore. The publisher is Springer. Additional references and reading material will be provided during the semester.
- EXAMS** One two-hour midterm exam. This will be given in mid- March. There will be a two-hour final exam given during finals week.
- HOMEWORK** Written assignments are an essential element of the course, and will be expected of the students. Assignments will generally consist of 4-8 problems collected each Friday. Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Late homework will be accepted only if prior arrangements are made.

ATTENDANCE Attendance at lectures and participation in discussions is expected.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to provide students with a strong foundation and a clear understanding of probability theory which serves as a basis for much of mathematical statistics. This course serves as the foundation for several other courses, and typically is very useful when working on a thesis problem.

TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THIS COURSE

I plan to cover much of the material in Chapters 5, 8, 10, 12 and 18 of the text by Shorack. If time permits, we may examine other specialized topics. I will try and maintain an informal atmosphere and encourage class discussion and participation. Questions are always welcomed and encouraged.

GRADING POLICY

The midterm exam will count approximately 35% of the course grade. The final exam will count approximately 40% of the course grade, and homework and quizzes will make up the other 25%. I don't have preconceived cutoff points for the various possible grades. Those students who score the most points will get the highest grades. Course policies are governed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. University policies regarding Student Rights and Responsibilities can be found at [http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic handbook/](http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic%20handbook/)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

I must hear from anyone who has a disability which may require some modification of the seating, testing, or other class requirements so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Please see me as soon as possible about this.

ADDITIONAL HELP

Students are encouraged to see the instructor outside of class. The Department also maintains a list of possible tutors (see Tammy in Room 241). A list of independent tutors can be found at <http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/courses/tutors.html>.

Final Exam: 12:00 P.M. Friday, May 16, 2008

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Policy and Procedures

Academic Fraud

Plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is reported to the departmental DEO and then to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Services in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students have the right to make suggestions or complaints and should first visit with the instructor, then with the course supervisor if appropriate, and next with the departmental DEO. All complaints must be made within six months of the incident.

www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml#5

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations first must register with Student Disability Services and then meet with a SDS counselor who determines eligibility for services. A student approved for accommodations should meet privately with the course instructor to arrange particular accommodations. www.uiowa.edu/~sds/

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Visit www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/ for definitions, assistance, and the full policy.

Administrative Home of the Course

The administrative home of this course is the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which governs academic matters relating to the course such as the add / drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, issues concerning academic fraud or academic probation, and how credits are applied for various CLAS requirements. Please keep in mind that different colleges might have different policies. If you have questions about these or other CLAS policies, visit your academic advisor or 120 Schaeffer Hall and speak with the staff. The CLAS Academic Handbook is another useful source of information on CLAS academic policy:

www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/index.shtml