Course Syllabus

Instructor: Bill Kinnersley

Office: Lippitt 101B
Office hours: Mon. 2-4 PM, Thurs. 2-4 PM
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Course Website: This course will use Sakai. The Sakai site will contain lecture notes, homework assignments, and administrative announcements. Check it often!

Course Content: Theoretical basis and fundamental tools of probability and statistics. Probability spaces, properties of probability, distributions, expectations, some common distributions and elementary limit theorems.

Classroom Conduct: The classroom is a place for learning. While you are in class, I expect you to remain focused on the course material, and also to maintain an environment in which other students can do the same. In particular:

- Laptops and tablets can be useful for taking notes or for annotating electronic copies of the provided lecture notes. However, they can also be major distractions. Avoid the temptation to browse Facebook, etc. during class! This is distracting not only to you, but also to other students sitting nearby. Use of laptops or tablets for any purpose other than note-taking will not be permitted.

- Cell phones should be muted and stored away at all times during class. Ringing (and even vibrating) phones are disruptive. Texting during class is flat-out disrespectful.

- All in-class discussion must pertain to the course material. Asking your neighbor about the variance of the hypergeometric distribution is fine; asking them about Friday night’s frat party is not. Off-topic chatter can be very distracting to other students.

Textbook: The textbook for this course is John E. Freund’s Mathematical Statistics with Applications, 7th ed., by Miller and Miller. (The 8th edition is fine, too, but the 7th edition is essentially the same, and can be obtained much more cheaply.)

Evaluation: The course grade will be based on weekly quizzes, two midterm exams, and a final exam, weighted as follows:

- Quizzes: 30%
- Midterm exams: 20% each (40% total)
- Final exam: 30%

Scores will be posted in the Sakai gradebook.
The scale for letter grades will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93.00% and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90.00% - 92.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87.00% - 89.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83.00% - 86.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80.00% - 82.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77.00% - 79.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73.00% - 76.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70.00% - 72.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67.00% - 69.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60.00% - 66.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59.99% and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These cutoffs might be lowered very slightly, but they will not be raised.

If you have any questions about the grading of a particular assignment, please contact me within one week of the day the assignment was returned.

**Calculator Policy:** No calculators, period! You may not use calculators on any quiz or exam, nor should you need to. (I will generally be very forgiving of arithmetic mistakes.)

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given during most Tuesday classes. Each student’s lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

**Homework:** After each lecture, homework questions for that lecture’s material will be posted on Sakai. *Homework will not be collected or graded.* However, it is still important that you take the homework seriously, because practicing the material is an important part of understanding it. Try to work through the homework as soon as possible, preferably on the same day it’s posted; this will make it easier for you to keep up.

As additional encouragement to work through the homework, at least one question on each week’s quiz will be taken verbatim from the corresponding homework assignments. The remaining questions will often be quite similar to assigned homework questions.

**Midterm Exams:** There will be two midterm exams, held in class on March 3 and April 14 (both of which are Thursdays).

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be Thursday, May 5, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM. It will be cumulative.

**Absence Policy:** If you miss any evaluation due to illness or emergency, you must contact me – in person, by phone, or through email – *within 24 hours.* Under most circumstances, absences must be documented.

If you know that you will need to miss an evaluation due to religious observances or University-sanctioned events, you must contact me at least *one week* before the relevant evaluation.

**Accommodations:** If you require accommodations and have documentation from Disability Services (874-2098), please get in touch with me as soon as possible.

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating is prohibited in all aspects of the course. Cheating includes but is not limited to: communication with other students during a quiz or exam, reading another student’s written work during a quiz or exam, and use of any electronic device (including calculators) during a quiz or exam. I take cheating very seriously; *any* cheating will result in severe consequences.