

Introduction to Probability Theory: Syllabus

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Purdue University

Introduction to Probability Theory - MA 519

Outline

1 Presentations

2 Ground rules

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My Purdue information

History:

- 5th year as Professor at Purdue
- Before that: in Nancy (France)

Office: 434, Math building

Email: stindel@purdue.edu

Office hours: Thursday 3:00-4:30pm

Webpage: <https://www.math.purdue.edu/~stindel/>



Advertising probability theory

Probability theory:

- Challenging from a mathematical point of view.
- Crucial for modeling in many areas.

Great names related to the field:

- Pascal
- Fermat
- Bernoulli
- Laplace
- Gauss

Brief outline of the course

Chapters covered: from S. Ross' book *A first course in probability*

- 1 Combinatorial analysis
- 2 Axioms of probability
- 3 Conditional probability
- 4 Random variables
- 5 Continuous random variables
- 6 Jointly distributed random variables

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Webpage

Course webpage:

<https://www.math.purdue.edu/~stindel/teaching/ma519/ma519>

Contents:

- Announcements
- Schedule
- Slides

Homework and exams

Homework:

- Homework due every week after Tuesday class
- Refer to the schedule on the course webpage (might fluctuate)

1 midterm:

- Oct. 16, 6:00-8:00pm

Final exam:

- Two-hours comprehensive
- During the final exam week (Dec. 9-14)

Grades

Total score calculation:

- Homework 200 pts.
- 1 Midterm exam 150 pts.
- Final Exam (comprehensive) 150 pts.
- Participation bonus 20 pts.

Participation bonus rule:

- Questions in class will be assigned
- This will (roughly) follow the class list
- You are expected to participate, not to give an exact answer
- Aim: get to know everyone
- Remark: this is an experimental system

Attendance

Attendance:

- Class attendance is expected.
- Strongly recommended:
Reading the sections in the textbook ahead of time

Withdrawal

Withdrawal policy:

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|
| 9/2 | 5pm | Last day to cancel a course assignment without it appearing on record |
| 9/16 | 5pm | Last day to withdraw from a course with a W or to add/modify a course |
| 10/22 | 5pm | Last day to withdraw from a course with a W or WF |

Academic honesty

Academic dishonesty:

- Reminder: cheating is not fair to your peers.
- We are committed to reporting any event of this kind.
- See <http://www.purdue.edu/odos>

Tip for the HW:

- Work in team is authorized and even encouraged
- Once the solution is obtained, go back to your room/office
↔ to write up everything in your own words

Purdue Honor Pledge:

As a boilermaker pursuing academic excellence,
I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do.
Accountable together - we are Purdue.

Other topics

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

- Be certified by the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as eligible for academic adjustments on exams or quizzes.
- Contact me.

Online course evaluation system:

During the last two weeks of the semester.