

# Introduction to Probability Theory: Syllabus

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Purdue University

Probability - MA 416

# Outline

1 Presentations

2 Ground rules

3 Virus modifications

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# My Purdue information

## History:

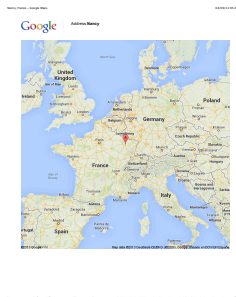
- 5th year as Professor at Purdue
- Before that: in Nancy (France)

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Office hours: Thursday 12:00-1:30pm

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/ma416/ma416>

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)
- 2 worst HW will be dropped

## Grader's information:

- Shiqi Zhang, zhan2585@purdue.edu

## 1 midterm:

- Feb. 24, 8:00-9:00pm

## Final exam:

- Two-hours, Chapters 4-5-6.
- During the final exam week (May. 4-9)

# Grades

## Total score calculation:

- Homework 200 pts.
- 1 Midterm exam 100 pts.
- Final Exam (comprehensive) 200 pts.
- Participation bonus 20 pts.

## Participation bonus rule:

- Questions will be asked in class
- Volunteers will get some points towards the bonus
- 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:

- 1/27 5pm** Last day to cancel a course assignment without it appearing on record
- 2/10 5pm** Last day to withdraw from a course with a *W* or to add/modify a course
- 3/13 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.

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# Some modifications

## Lectures:

- Two possible asynchronous solutions:
  - ▶ Via Boilecast, available on Blackboard
  - ▶ Via Kaltura, available with a link on my webpage
- Thanks for the feedback about different versions

## Homework:

- Following the regular schedule (see calendar)
- Submitted via Gradescope

## Final:

- Through Gradescope, 70mn long, worth 100 pts (not 200 pts)
- To be taken between May 6 12am and May 7 11:59pm



# Grades

## New total score calculation:

- Homework 200 pts.
- 1 Midterm exam 100 pts.
- Final Exam (about Chapters 4-5-6) 100 pts.
- Participation bonus 20 pts.

## Participation bonus:

- Frozen at its state before the Spring Break
- Each answer is worth 7 pts of bonus
- 3 answers or more means full 20 pts of bonus