

STAT 418, Section 003: Probability
Spring 2006
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Wei Zhang
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Office Hours: Instructor T 3:00pm-4:00pm, R 11:00am-12:00pm or by appointment
TA R 1:30pm-3:30pm

Meeting Times and Location: MWF 3:35pm-4:25pm 118 Thomas Building

Textbook: A First Course in Probability, seventh edition, by Sheldon Ross

Course Website: Angel (www.angel.psu.edu)

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the fundamentals and axioms of probability. It covers the major sections of Chapters 1-8 of the text.

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned almost every week and will be collected on the following Wednesday. Solutions will be posted online. No late or make-up homework assignments will be given for any reason, but only your highest 10 of 12 homework scores will count toward your final grade. You are encouraged to work together and discuss the homework, but you **must** submit your own solutions. In order to obtain full credit, please provide enough details in the problem solutions, not just an answer. Please write your name legibly and staple the sheets.

Quizzes: There will be 5 in-class quizzes. Each quiz consists of two short questions, one randomly chosen homework problem or one example discussed in class will be in the quiz. Quiz will take 15 minutes. All quizzes are close book, close notes, but you may bring your calculator. No late or make-up quizzes will be given for any reason, but I will count your best 4 of 5 quizzes.

Exams: There will be two midterms and the final. The first midterm will cover chapters 1-3 of the text. The second midterm will cover chapters 4-5 of the text. The final examination is a comprehensive one. During the lecture before each exam, I will hold a review session. You are allowed to bring a double-sided 8.5" x 11" formula sheet in each midterm exam and two double-sided 8.5" x 11" formula sheets in the final exam, and use calculator in each exam. No late or make-up midterm exams will be given for any reason. If you miss an exam, once your explanation in writing is approved by the instructor, the weight of your next exam will be combined with the weight of the missed exam.

Grading policy:

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Homework: 20%
Midterms: 40%

Quizzes: 10%
Final: 30%

Final grades will be determined as follows:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
93-100	88-92	85-87	80-84	75-79	70-74	60-69	55-59	<55

Integrity Statement: All Penn State and Eberly College of Science policies regarding academic integrity apply to this course. See

<http://www.science.psu.edu/academic/Integrity/index.html> for details

Quiz 1	Jan 20
Quiz 2	Feb 3
Midterm 1	Feb 17
Quiz 3	Mar 3
Quiz 4	Mar 24
Midterm 2	April 7
Quiz 5	April 21
Final	May 1-May 5