

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Department of Mathematical Sciences

STAT 4370 (CRN 13121) 3 credit hours
FALL 2008 COURSE SYLLABUS

TITLE: Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Computer Scientists

PREREQUISITE: Math 1312 (Calculus II).

MEETING TIME: Tuesday, Thursday 1:30-2:50

MEETING PLACE: Business Building, Room 321

PROFESSOR: Dr. J. G. Staniswalis (915) 747-6761

email address: joan@math.utep.edu

FAX number: 915-747-5856

Emergency Contact: Mathematical Sciences Department, Bell Hall 124, (915)-747-5761.

OFFICE HOURS: 1-2 Wednesdays, Fridays or by appointment.

My office is in BELL HALL room 227 (across from the elevator).

COME TO OFFICE HOURS!

REQUIRED TEXTS: *Probability and Statistics for Computer Scientists* by Michael Baron. Published in 2007 by Chapman & Hall CRC, Taylor & Francis Group, Boca Raton, FL. ISBN 1-58488-641-2.

OBJECTIVES: By the end of this course, students should be able to read a word problem or a corporate report, realize the uncertainty that is involved in a situation described, select a suitable probability model, estimate and test its parameters on the basis of real data, compute probabilities of interesting events and other vital characteristics, and make appropriate conclusions and forecasts (Lallmahomed, M. 2008, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A, 171 (1), p 312). This course is designed to satisfy the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology requirements for probability and statistics.

ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS: Students will be expected to attend lecture, read the book, and practice the concepts by solving problems from the textbook assigned for homework. The textbook problems will be supplemented with computer assignments requiring the use of statistical software available in the UGLC computer lab and the ACES computer lab in Bell Hall. Statistical software instruction will be provided as needed. In-class group activities will be used to encourage active learning. Study groups to discuss the problems and brainstorm approaches to the problem are encouraged, however, the written assignments and computer programs turned in for grading are to be your own work and reflect your individual effort.

Assessment of Course Objectives: You will be graded on homeworks, group work, and in-class examinations. Grades will be posted on Web-CT.

Grading Policy: The final grade is based on:

25% Graded homework assignments, but the two lowest homework grades will be dropped.

15% Quizzes—These are NOT pop quizzes. You can drop two of your quiz grades. The quizzes will typically last 15 minutes.

20% Exam I

20% Exam II

20% Final Cumulative Exam

Letter grades are determined according to the following grid:

Grade	Score
A	90-100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	50 - 59

The Final Exam is cumulative with emphasis on that material covered in the latter part of the semester, after the second midterm. Calculators, not computers or cell phones, are permitted on the exams. You may NOT share a calculator on the exams.

Having a predetermined grading scale (rather than subjectively or comparatively determined) means that you can tell exactly how well you are doing in class. It also means that you are not in competition with the other students.

MAKE-UP POLICY: No make-up quizzes or late homeworks are allowed. Make-up examinations will not be given. Students are required to take the two midterms and final exam at the scheduled times.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Class attendance is required and noted at the beginning of class; more than two unexcused absences will result in an instructor-initiated drop or final grade reduction. Because late arrivals are disruptive to the class, you are to be seated in the classroom by 1:30 am and remain in class until 2:50 am. If you need to leave class early, please notify me before class starts.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY: Violations of academic integrity, including unauthorized submission of work performed by others, will be pursued vigorously to result in the most severe sanctions. Please refer to UTEP's policy cited in <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785>

CIVILITY STATEMENT: No text messaging in class, please silence cell phones before coming to class. Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and group activities. Group work that is not completed in class is to be finished as homework, so use the class time wisely by staying focused on the class topic and avoiding chit-chat.

DISABILITY STATEMENT: If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Disabled Student Services Office (DSSO) at 747-5148 or at <dss@utep.edu> or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DSS accommodation letters and instructions.

MILITARY STATEMENT: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to notify me by Sept. 2.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 10- Class Census Day. If a student drops before the census date of a semester, neither the course nor a grade will appear on the student's academic record. This is the last day to drop without a *W*.

October 7- Target date for first midterm.

October 31- Course Drop Deadline. If a student drops from a course after the Census Date but before the Course Drop Deadline, a grade of *W* will be assigned.

November 11- Target date for second midterm.

December 4- Last day of class.

December 5- Dead Day

December 11- Class Final Exam from 4am to 6:45 pm in Business Building, Room 321.