

Math 362K Probability I

Fall 2018 Section 54275

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Textbook: *A first course in probability*, 9th edition, by S. Ross.

Prerequisite: Mathematics 408D, 408L, or 408S with a grade of at least C-.

Course description: This is an introductory course in the mathematical theory of probability, thus it is fundamental to further work in probability and statistics, as well as many other fields in science, engineering, economics, etc. The topics covered will include basic notions of probability, conditional probability and independence, various discrete and continuous random variables, expectation and variance, joint probability distributions, the law of large numbers, and the central limit theorem.

Course objectives: Your goal in this course, as in every course that you ever take, should be a complete mastery of the material. Anything less is aspiring to mediocrity and doing yourself a disservice. I expect you to read the section in the text that we will be covering before we meet. Come to class ready to ask questions about what you do not yet know. After class, re-read the text and your notes, and do exercises to complete your mastery of the material.

Grading policy:

Quizzes	Homework	Midterms	Final
30%	10%	30%	30%

Final grades will be determined on the basis of the following rubric: A = 94-100, A- = 90-93, B+ = 87-89, B = 84-86, B- = 80-83, C+ = 77-79, C = 74-76, C- = 70-73, D+ = 67-69, D = 64-66, D- = 60-63, F = 0-60. Please note: to ensure fairness, all numbers are absolute, and will not be rounded up or down at any stage. Thus a B- will be inclusive of all scores of 80.000 through 83.999. The University does not recognize the grade of A+. Final grades might be curved upwards but do not count on it.

Exam Schedule:

Exam 1	Exam 2	Final
Sept 28, Friday	Oct 29, Monday	Dec 14, Friday

Exams: The exams will be given during the regular class time. The final will be held Friday, Dec 14, 9:00am-12:00 pm. Calculators will **NOT** be allowed on the exams and final.

Homework: Homeworks will be due every week (with a few exceptions) at the start of class on the due date. No late homework will be accepted for **ANY** reason! However the three lowest homeworks will be dropped before computing the average.

Quizzes: Short quizzes will be given every Friday (with a few exceptions) near the end of class. No make-ups will be given for quizzes but the lowest 3 scores will be dropped.

Tentative Schedule:

Week	1	Chapter 1
Week	2	Chapter 2
Week	3	Chapter 3
Week	4	Chapter 4.1-4.5
Week	5	Exam 1
Week	6	Chapter 4.6-4.9
Week	7-8	Chapter 5
Week	9	Chapter 5
Week	10	Exam 2
Week	11	Chapter 6
Week	12	Chapter 7
Week	13	Chapter 8
Week	14	Chapter 8 + Thanksgiving
Week	15	Chapter 8 + Review
Week	16	Review

Tips: When reading the book, it's good practice to pause before reading a proof and ask yourself what you would do to prove the statement. If time permits, try to prove the result before reading its solution. If you don't know where to start on a homework problem, it's a good idea to make a list of 'things to try' and a list of 'possibly relevant facts' and see if you can find connections. Of course, you can also get help from myself, the TA or your fellow students.

Make-up Policy: There are no make-ups for homework for **ANY** reason. If you have a valid reason (medical or family emergency) for missing an exam, then I will give you an alternative exam, preferably *before* the scheduled exam. Missing an exam without a valid reason will result in a score of zero for that exam. To be excused you must notify me (acknowledged email or written) prior to date of absence if such notification is feasible.

Religious Holy Days: By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Q Drop Policy: If you want to drop a class after the 12th class day, you'll need to execute a Q drop before the Q-drop deadline, which typically occurs near the middle of the semester. Under Texas law, you are only allowed six Q drops while you are in college at any public Texas institution. For more information, see: <http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/csacc/academic/adddrop/qdrop>

Student Accommodations: Students with a documented disability may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone).

<http://ddce.utexas.edu/disability/about/>

- Please request a meeting as soon as possible to discuss any accommodations.
- Please notify me as soon as possible if the material being presented in class is not accessible.
- Please notify me if any of the physical space is difficult for you.

Academic Integrity: Each student in the course is expected to abide by the University of Texas Honor Code: 'As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.' This means that work you produce on assignments, tests and exams is all your own work, unless it is assigned as group work. I will make it clear for each test, exam or assignment whether collaboration is encouraged or not. Always cite your

sources. If you use words or ideas that are not your own (or that you have used in previous class), you must make that clear otherwise you will be guilty of plagiarism and subject to academic disciplinary action, including failure of the course. You are responsible for understanding UT's Academic Honesty Policy which can be found at the following web address:

http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php

University Resources for Students: The university has numerous resources for students to provide assistance and support for your learning, use these to help you succeed in your classes.

The Sanger Learning Center: Did you know that more than one-third of UT undergraduate students use the Sanger Learning Center each year to improve their academic performance? All students are welcome to take advantage of Sanger Center's classes and workshops, private learning specialist appointments, peer academic coaching, and tutoring for more than 70 courses in 15 different subject areas. For more information, please visit <http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc> or call 512-471-3614 (JES A332).

The University Writing Center: The University Writing Center offers free, individualized, expert help with writing for any UT student, by appointment or on a drop-in basis. Consultants help students develop strategies to improve their writing. The assistance we provide is intended to foster students resourcefulness and self-reliance. <http://uwc.utexas.edu/>

Counseling and Mental Health Center : The Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) provides counseling, psychiatric, consultation, and prevention services that facilitate students' academic and life goals and enhance their personal growth and well-being. <http://cmhc.utexas.edu/>

Student Emergency Services: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>

ITS : Need help with technology? <http://www.utexas.edu/its/>

Libraries: Need help searching for information? <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/>

Canvas : Canvas help is available 24/7 at <https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/633028/pages/student-tutorials>

Important Safety Information from BCAL: If you have concerns about the safety or behavior of fellow students, TAs or Professors, call BCAL (the Behavior Concerns Advice Line): 512-232-5050. Your call can be anonymous. If something doesn't feel right; it probably isn't. Trust your instincts and share your concerns.

Evacuation Information: The following recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/>

Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when an alarm or alert is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside, unless told otherwise by an official representative.

- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.
- Link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: www.utexas.edu/emergency