

STA 230.01 / MTH 230.01: Probability

Classroom: Old Chem 116
Time: Wednesday and Friday 10:05 AM - 11:20 AM

Professor: Colin Rundel
Office: Old Chemistry 223C
Email: colin.rundel@stat.duke.edu

Teaching Assistants: Hunter Nisonoff - hmn5@duke.edu
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Textbook [Probability](#), Pitman
Springer, 1st Edition 7th Printing, 1993
ISBN: 978-0-387-97974-8

Course Website: http://stat.duke.edu/~cr173/Sta230_Sp14

Office hours:
Professor Tuesdays 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm or by appointment.

TAs Sunday - Thursday 4pm - 9pm at the SECC (Old Chemistry 211A)
For more information and a schedule see <http://www.stat.duke.edu/secc>

Exams: Midterm 1: Friday, February 21st
Midterm 2: Friday, March 28th
Final: Wednesday, April 30th 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Holidays: Wednesday, March 12th and Friday, March 14th - Spring Recess

Grading:

Your final grade will be comprised of the following.

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| Homework | 30% |
| Midterm 1 | 20% |
| Midterm 2 | 20% |
| Final | 30% |

The exact ranges for letter grades will be curved and cutoffs will be determined after the final exam. The more evidence there is that the class has mastered the material, the more generous the curve will be.

Lectures:

Lectures will include a combination of theory / derivations and interesting and illustrative examples. Slides will be posted before each lecture. Note that these slides are not intended to be exhaustive and will be a poor substitute for taking your own notes during the course of the lectures. My expectation is that students should attempt the assigned readings before class so that they are not seeing the material for the first time in lecture. You are responsible for all the material covered in lecture as well as in the text and homeworks. Please ask questions in class, office-hours or by e-mail if you are struggling (or just curious), do not wait until just before an exam when it may be too late.

Homework:

These will be assigned weekly on the course webpage and will be comprised of problems from the text and additional problems. The objective of the homework assignments is to help you develop a more in-depth understanding of the material covered in the lectures and help you prepare for exams.

Homework assignments will be graded out of 100 points and grading will be based on completeness as well as accuracy. In order to receive credit you must show all your work. You are welcomed, and encouraged, to work with each other on the homework problems, but you must turn in your own work. If you copy someone else's work, both parties will receive a 0 for the assignment and will be reported to the *Undergraduate Conduct Board*. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism do not hesitate to ask.

Your homework must be stapled, legible, and contain your name and student ID number and is due at the beginning of class on the due date (see late work policy below). If you cannot make it to class the day homework is due, please email me to make arrangements to drop off your homework earlier. There should be approximately 12 homework assignments throughout this course, your final homework grade will be graded based on your highest $n - 1$ scores where n is the actual number of homework assignments (lowest homework score will be dropped). You are welcome to type up your assignments using L^AT_EX, if you wish to use an alternative typesetting program please speak with me before doing so.

Exams:

The first midterm will be on Friday, February 21 and second midterm is on Friday, March 28, both will be in class. The Final Exam will be a comprehensive 3 hour exam that will be administered on Wednesday, April 30 from 2 pm - 5 pm. Exam dates cannot be changed. No make-up exams will be given. If you cannot take the exams on these dates you should drop this class. You cannot pass this class if you do not take the final exam regardless of your scores on the other components of this class.

You will be allowed to bring one sheet of notes (“cheat sheet”) to the midterms and the final. This sheet must be no larger than $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ ”, and must be prepared by you. You may use both sides of the sheet.

Email:

I will regularly send course announcements by email, make sure to check your email daily. Email is the easiest way to reach me outside of class, note that it is much more efficient to answer most questions in person.

Academic integrity:

Duke University is a community dedicated to scholarship, leadership, and service and to the principles of honesty, fairness, respect, and accountability. Citizens of this community commit to reflect upon and uphold these principles in all academic and non-academic endeavors, and to protect and promote a culture of integrity. Cheating on exams or plagiarism on homework assignments, lying about an illness or absence and other forms of academic dishonesty are a breach of trust with classmates and faculty, violate the *Duke Community Standard*, and will not be tolerated. Such incidences will result in a 0 grade for all parties involved. Additionally, there may be penalties to your final class grade along with being reported to the *Undergraduate Conduct Board*.

Please review the Academic Dishonesty policies at <http://www.studentaffairs.duke.edu/conduct/resources/academicdishonesty>.

Excused Absences:

Students who miss tests due to a scheduled varsity trip, religious holiday or short-term illness should fill out an online *NOVAP*, *RHoliday* or *short-term illness* form respectively and will be given the grade of their Final Exam for those tests. Note that these excused absences do not excuse you from assigned homework, it is your responsibility to make alternative arrangements to turn in the assignment in a timely fashion.

Those with a personal emergency or bereavement should seek a Dean’s Excuse; check with your academic dean for details.

Policies:

- Late work policy for homework assignments:
 - late but during class: -10 points
 - after class on due date: -20 points
 - next day or later: no credit
- There will not be make-ups for any of the homeworks or exams.
- All regrade requests on homeworks and exams must be discussed with the professor within one week of receiving your graded work. There will be no grade changes after the final exam.