

MATH 247 - FALL 2011

Instructor: Professor Jesse Peterson

e-mail: jesse.d.peterson@vanderbilt.edu

Office: SC 1414

Office Hours:

Mondays 2:10 - 3:00

Wednesdays 2:10 - 4:00

Fridays by appointment

Book:

We will cover chapters 1-9 in the book: A First Course in Probability, eighth edition. ISBN: 978-0136033134.

Website:

<http://www.math.vanderbilt.edu/~peters10/teaching/Fall2011/math247.html>

Homework:

Homework will be due by the beginning of class every Friday that we meet (13 in total). Homework can be turned in either in class, during office hours, or in electronic form via email. I will not accept homework put in my mailbox. **You are required to know all material that we cover in class, even if there is no homework problem which directly addresses a portion of the material.**

You are allowed, and encouraged, to work in groups on the homework. However, you must each turn in your own written solutions.

Late homework:

It is your responsibility to have homework turned in by the beginning of class on Friday, even if you are unable to attend class yourself. I will allow late homework without penalty but only if it is turned in during office hours the following week where you will have to present to me on the board a problem of my choosing.

Homework guidelines:

The homework you turn in should look neat and professional. It should be written on either lined or blank paper only, and either typed or printed in pencil or black ink. Only standard white 8.5x11 paper should be used and if using lined paper it should only be three hole punch with no frill. Your homework should not look crammed; it should have one inch margins all around. It should not have scratch work or scribbles on it, and your solutions should clearly indicate your reasoning process. It must be stapled.

The problems should be answered linearly in the order they are presented, and the problems should be written on your homework directly before the solution.

If these guidelines are not followed then your homework will be returned to you and it will be treated as late homework under the guidelines stated above.

Homework grading:

In grading the homework problems I will use the following system:

Correct solution with sound reasoning: Full credit.

Incomplete reasoning and/or minor errors: 1/2 to 3/4 credit.

Contains faulty reasoning, substantial gaps, no substantial progress, or is left blank: 0 credit.

Write "I don't know": 1/4 credit.

Exam dates (in class):

Wednesday, September 28th.

Wednesday, October 26th.

Wednesday, November 30th.

Final exam (in class and comprehensive):

9:00 am - 11:00 am: Monday, December 12th.

Grades:

The usual grading scale used will be: A:93-100, A-:90-92, B+:87-89, B:83-86, B-:80-82, C+:77-79, C:73-76, C-:70-72, D+:67-69, D:63-66, D-:60-62, F:0-59. The final grade will be based on the homework (25%), tests (15% each), and final exam (30%). Individual exams may be curved as needed however the final grade will not be curved.

Important Dates:

Tuesday August 30th: End of the add/drop period.

October 6th-7th: Fall break.

October 14th: Last day to drop the class (with a grade of W).

November 21st-25th: Thanksgiving break.

December 2nd-8th: Dead week.

Refer to the academic calendar for information on other important dates.

Make-up policy:

There will be no make-up tests or homework assignments. The attendance and make-up policy will follow the guidelines set forth by the College of Arts and Sciences. For more information visit

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/catalogs/undergrad/artscience.html>

Academic integrity:

You will all be held to the standards set forth in the Student Handbook. For more information visit

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentconduct/wp-content/uploads/StudentConduct_bro_v3.pdf