

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
Probability and Statistics
22S:120 Spring 2007

Course Information and Tools

Purpose This course develops probability theory from basic axioms. Probability models then provide the basis for an introductory mathematical study of statistical inference.

Time and Location Monday and Wednesday 3:30-5:20 p.m. in 71 SH

Instructor Blake Whitten Office: 261 Schaeffer Hall Phone: 335-0647
Email: blake-whitten@uiowa.edu

Office Hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 2:00-3:00 p.m. in 261 SH
- Monday and Wednesday 9:15-9:45 p.m. in C207 PBB

Course Website <http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/~blake/s120>

Required Materials

- **Textbook:** *A Brief Course in Mathematical Statistics*, 2007, by Tanis and Hogg
- **Calculator:** You need a calculator which accepts data entry and calculates both *one-variable statistics* (for instance, standard deviation) and *two-variable statistics* (for example, correlation.)
 - * Use the **Calculator Help** link on the website to check your calculator's functionality.
 - * Recommended calculators if you need to purchase one: TI 83 Plus, TI 86, TI 30XIIS, TI 36X, TI 36XII. (Some have more elaborate spreadsheet-type displays, some do not.)
 - * The following calculators will not do the job (no two-variable statistics) and should not be purchased: TI 30STAT, TI 30X, TI 30Xa.

Course Policies Course policies are governed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Disabilities Please see me in my office as soon as possible if you have any disabilities which require alternative arrangements for lectures or exams.

Department Chair Luke Tierney, 241 Schaeffer Hall, 335-0712, luke-tierney@uiowa.edu

Course Features

Study Teams

You are assigned to a team of four students to provide study support. The best way to study for this course is to first do the work on your own, and then meet with your study team to work through difficult or challenging problems.

Class Meetings

A tentative course schedule is posted on the website (subject to updates.) It's a GREAT idea to read the Tanis book two lectures ahead (to provide flexibility.)

Please Note: Students are responsible for class notes, and must get them from students in their study teams or from other students in case of absence.

Homework

- Homework assignments are made about once a week and **are due one week later at the beginning of class.** A lateness penalty of 25% per day applies.
- Each team makes a single (common) homework submission for each assignment; homework scores apply to all members of the team.
- Homework Guidelines
 1. Place a box around each final numerical answer.
 2. Show all important steps in your reasoning. (Otherwise, no credit.)
 3. Homework should be neat and stapled, with names in the top right corner.

ICON

Students can access homework and exam scores on ICON. (See link from website.)

Email

Professor Whitten occasionally sends emails to the class containing important or useful information. Please keep your UI email account clear (under quota) so that you will receive such messages.

Course Grades

- If your Final Exam score exceeds any of four midterm exam scores, the *smallest* of the midterm exam scores is replaced with the Final Exam score in the calculation of the course percentage (at most one such replacement.)
- Weights for course percentage:

10%	Homework
60%	Midterm Exams 1–4 (15% each)
30%	Final Exam
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	
100%	
- Course Percentage:
 1. Replace your lowest midterm Exam score with your Final Exam score only if such replacement improves your score (at most one such replacement.)
 2.
$$\text{Course \%} = (0.10)(\text{HW}) + (0.15)(\text{Exam 1}) + (0.15)(\text{Exam 2}) + (0.15)(\text{Exam 3}) + (0.15)(\text{Exam 4}) + (0.30)(\text{Final Exam})$$
- Course grades are earned roughly as

“A” = 90%, “B” = 80%, “C” = 70%, “D” = 60%,

Letter grades may include +/–. Class participation may influence grades in borderline cases.