

Math 243: Intro to Probability and Statistics

The University of Oregon

CRN 41876

Summer 2021

Class Meetings: MTWRF, 10:00–11:50, over Zoom

Instructor: Cruz Godar

Email: cgodar@uoregon.edu

Office Hours: M 12:00–12:50, T 9:00–9:50, R 12:00–12:50, and by appointment

Materials

Textbook: *The Basic Practice of Statistics*, 8th Edition by Moore

Calculator: A calculator will save you some time doing simple calculations. Graphing calculators are allowed, but there won't be a focus on them and they won't be required on any exam or quiz questions.

Assignments and Grading

Your total grade in the class is determined by your attendance and participation, and your scores on the homework, quizzes, midterm exams, and the final exam, weighted in the following manner:

Homework: 15%

Webwork: 15%

Quizzes: 10%

Midterm Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

Your total grade at the end of the quarter will be rounded up to the nearest whole number. For example, a total grade of 88.2% will be rounded up to 89% and awarded a B+.

Homework: The homework is graded out of 32 points, and split into two parts:

- A handful of book problems, which are graded on completeness (i.e. only on whether you attempted them, not whether you did them correctly). These are collectively worth 16 points.
- Two custom exercises, written by me and graded on correctness. These are intended to be similar in material and difficulty to the textbook problems — the only difference in how you should approach them is writing up your solutions very carefully. Each problem is worth 8 points, for a total of 16.

Working with others is strongly encouraged, but the final work you submit must be your own. Your lowest homework score will be dropped. **No late work will be accepted unless there is a documented, excusable circumstance.** Such circumstances include sports events in which you are involved in an official capacity (competing or playing in the band, for example). If this is the case and you are given a make-up opportunity, the late work must be submitted no more than three days after its original due date.

This is an online course, and so all homework will be submitted via Canvas. You'll handwrite your homework and scan it, via a scanner or your smartphone. A series of pictures or pdfs will **not** be

accepted — only a single pdf file may be submitted. To use your smartphone for this, I recommend the Genius Scan app. You can also use the built-in document scanner in iOS (accessible through the Files app by tapping the ... menu and selecting *Scan Documents*). Starting with the second homework, submissions that aren't a single pdf will receive a 10% point reduction.

Webwork: There will be roughly one Webwork assignment per chapter (i.e. a little less than one per day). Each one will be due two days after we finish the relevant chapter in the book.

Quizzes: We'll have a quiz every week, during the last 20 minutes of a class. You'll write your work on a separate sheet of paper, scan it, and upload it to Canvas within 20 minutes of the start time. Your lowest quiz will be dropped. The quizzes are only worth 10% of your final grade, so they serve more as a barometer for how well you're prepared for the exams than an evaluation of your ability at the time. If you aren't getting the scores you'd like on the quizzes, **reach out for help** before the exam. As with the homework, **no late work will be accepted unless there is a documented, excusable circumstance.**

Exams: Our class will have a midterm on the Friday of week 2 and a final on the Friday of week 4. The midterm will cover multiple sections of material, and the final will cover all of the sections covered in the course. **No make-up or early exams will be offered, except in the case of a documented, excusable circumstance.** If this is the case, the exam must be taken as soon as possible, and no more than three days after it was originally given.

You'll need to have your camera on during the midterms and quizzes. If that doesn't work for you for any reason, let me know during the first week of classes and we'll find a solution.

A note on grading: the majority of problems in this class are graded on a four-point scale that is curved to an eight-point one:

8: Work that shows command of the material and has only a few small mistakes, if any.

7: Work that shows a strong understanding of the relevant material, but contains enough errors that they get in the way of the demonstration of that understanding.

5: Work that shows elements of understanding, but is too clouded with mistakes to be considered on the right track.

3: Work that demonstrates a very small amount of understanding — but still some.

0: No work shown for any problem where work is required or work that demonstrates no understanding at all of the relevant material.

Course Schedule

This schedule is tentative, and may change slightly throughout the quarter.

6/21 Chapter 1	6/22 Chapter 2	6/23 Chapter 2	6/24 Chapter 3 Quiz 1	6/25 Chapter 8 HW 1
6/28 Chapter 9 Quiz 2	6/29 Chapter 12 HW 2	6/30 Chapter 13	7/1 Chapter 15	7/2 Midterm
7/5 Holiday	7/6 Chapter 16 HW 3	7/7 Chapter 17	7/8 Chapter 18 Quiz 3	7/9 Chapter 20 HW 4
7/12 Chapter 21 Quiz 4	7/13 Chapter 22 HW 5	7/14 Chapter 23	7/15 Review	7/16 Final

Other Things

Contacting: Aside from office hours, I'm happy to answer questions via email. From 9–5 on weekdays, I generally respond within a few hours. Outside of those hours, it often takes me a little while to check my email.

Accessibility: For those of you who are currently registered with Accessible Education Center for a documented disability, please present your paperwork to me during the first week of the term (or earlier) so that we can design a plan for you. Those of you with a disability, or who think they might have one, but are not registered with AEC should contact them as soon as possible. It is much more likely that measures can be taken to provide adequate special accommodation if the organization is done through AEC. Please let me know if you need additional accommodations.

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Reporting: I am a student-directed employee. For information about my reporting obligations as an employee, please see [Employee Reporting](#)

Obligations. Students experiencing any form of prohibited discrimination or harassment, including sex or gender based violence, may seek information on safe.uoregon.edu, respect.uoregon.edu, titleix.uoregon.edu, or aaeo.uoregon.edu or contact the non-confidential Title IX office (541-346-8136), AAEO office (541-346-3123), or Dean of Students offices (541-346-3216), or call the 24-7 hotline 541-346-SAFE for help. I am also a mandatory reporter of child abuse. Please find more information at [Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect](#).

Conduct: This university exists for your benefit. If you believe something is not as it should be, don't hesitate to let me know.

And as you should hold the university to a high standard, I will hold all of you to one in return. Academic dishonesty, including looking at other students' quizzes or tests or using any materials other than those allowed during a testing period, submitting others' work as your own, or altering returned work and resubmitting it, will be met with the strictest disciplinary action possible.

A word on learning: Math is not a subject that is learned passively. It is one thing to understand examples from lecture and another thing entirely to work through problems by yourself. Students who come to lecture expecting it to be enough on its own to pass the tests — and therefore don't put much or any effort into the homework — typically end up with very poor class grades. For your own benefit, it's crucial to stay on top of the homework, to follow along with lecture, and to seek help — from a friend, from my office hours, from the textbook, or from a tutor — when that becomes difficult. In the same vein, it's critical that if you're struggling, you reach out before large assignments, not after. I want to help however I can, but if a test has already been graded and handed back, there's usually nothing I can do.