

Course website:

<http://math.pugetsound.edu/~jbernhard>

Contact information

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See the course website for my office hours. My office phone number is 253.879.3812, but the phone is usually one of the slowest ways to reach me. Email is usually much faster. (All of my email is forwarded to another account, so you may receive email from me at that account as well.)

The course website is the best resource for information about the course. Among other things, it contains a complete calendar for the semester, including all assignments. Also, if you email me a password when I request one, you will be able to access your grade-to-date any time during the semester via the course website.

Learning objectives

The main goals of this course are:

- To improve your ability to learn mathematics.
- To practice reading, writing, and presenting mathematics.
- To learn about the subject of probability theory.

The third goal includes building a solid foundation in probability theory, one suitable for pursuing (among other things) any of the following:

- graduate studies in statistics
- graduate studies in mathematics or applied mathematics
- an actuarial career

Prerequisites

To take this course, you should have successfully completed *Mathematics 280 (Multivariate Calculus)* and *Mathematics 290 (Linear Algebra)*. If you have not completed both of these, please see me so that we can discuss the suitability of this course for you.

Course materials

The required text for this course is *Elementary Probability for Applications* by Rick Durrett (2009), available at the campus bookstore. No other particular course materials

are required, although you may find it convenient at times to use a calculator or a computer program such as R or SAGE.

That being said, I will expect your work to be word-processed on a computer and submitted by email. If you are not already familiar with how to typeset mathematics (such as with LaTeX, Word's equation editor, etc.), you will need to become familiar with this during the semester. I would be happy to help you with this. You will not be graded on your typographical skills, but you will need to be able to use them to communicate clearly.

Coursework

The coursework consists of:

- Approximately weekly **homework assignments**, usually due in class on Wednesdays.
- Three take-home **tests** throughout the semester.
- A **project** at the end of the semester.

There is no final exam for this course. The course is finished on the last day of class.

The *homework assignments* are to help you learn the material that will be covered on the tests, and you should use them as a learning tool. You are allowed to work with others on all homework problems except those designated as solo problems. The solo problems will give you practice in the solitary problem-solving skills required for the take-home tests.

On each homework assignment, you will turn in by email both the solo and the other problems, both in the same file (with the solo problem first). I will grade the solo problem but not the other problems. On the three take-home tests, however, you will be allowed to use *all* of the homework problems that you have submitted to me on time, including both the solo and the other problems. So while your write-ups on the solo problems should be addressed to both yourself and me, the write-ups on the other problems are solely for you. They should consist of anything that will help you when you consult them on the tests.

On the tests, you will be allowed to use the course textbook, class notes that you have taken yourself or have acquired before the test starts, and all homework that you have submitted on time prior to the start of the test.

Grading

Your grade will be based on my assessment of your understanding of the material. By default, I will weight the various components of the course as follows:

Homework assignments	30%
Test 1	15%
Test 2	20%
Test 3	20%
Project	15%

However, these weights are subject to change due to individual circumstances, so if you believe the above components do not accurately represent your understanding of the material, please let me know. If the circumstances dictate, I can work with you to find another way to demonstrate your understanding of the material.

Late work policy

I will not accept late work without an appropriate reason, which you should explain to me before the work is late if possible. If you are falling behind or need to turn something in late, please see me so that we can discuss it.

Attendance policy

I will not be taking attendance in this class. You are responsible for the material that we cover in class whether or not you are in attendance. Since it is extremely difficult to keep up in the course without attending regularly, I expect absences to be rare.

Academic honesty

On homework problems not designated as solo problems, you are allowed to work with anyone (including each other, tutors, and me) as long as you do so in a way that helps you learn the material. You are not allowed to work with anyone else on the homework problems that are designated as solo problems. You are not allowed to work with anyone on any of the tests, and you should not discuss a test with anyone until the class has completed it and turned it in. If you have any questions on the solo problems or tests, you are allowed to ask me but no one else. On the project, you are allowed to work with others only to the extent that they provide routine editing of your paper and routine feedback on your presentation. Questions about all other aspects of the project should be directed to me and no one else.

For general information on issues of academic honesty, see the official University of Puget Sound academic honesty policy at:

<http://www.pugetsound.edu/student-life/student-resources/student-handbook/academic-handbook/academic-integrity/>

University emergency response procedures

Please review university emergency preparedness and response procedures posted at www.pugetsound.edu/emergency/. There is a link on the university home page. Familiarize yourself with hall exit doors and the designated gathering area for your class and laboratory buildings.

If building evacuation becomes necessary (e.g. earthquake), meet your instructor at the designated gathering area so she/he can account for your presence. Then wait for further instructions. Do not return to the building or classroom until advised by a university emergency response representative.

If confronted by an act of violence, be prepared to make quick decisions to protect your safety. Flee the area by running away from the source of danger if you can safely do so. If this is not possible, shelter in place by securing classroom or lab doors and windows, closing blinds, and turning off room lights. Lie on the floor out of sight and away from windows and doors. Place cell phones or pagers on vibrate so that you can receive messages quietly. Wait for further instructions.

Disabilities

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Peggy Perno, Director of the Office of Student Accessibility and Accommodation, 105 Howarth, 253.879.3395. She will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Other

Feel free to contact me with any questions you have regarding the course. I look forward to an enjoyable class with you this semester!