

## A First Course in Probability (Fall 2019)

Instructor: **Sarantsev, Andrey**

Subject: **STAT**

Catalog & Section: **461 1001**

Course ID: **87806**

Objectives: **Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:**

**1. demonstrate understanding of randomness and be able to use probability models to explain simple random phenomena. In addition, students will be able to compute summaries of probability distributions (univariate and multivariate).**

**2. compute measures of location, dispersion, and association, as well as probability of interest for many univariate and multivariate distributions.**

**3. assess and make use of the asymptotic results provided by the Law of Large Numbers and the Central Limit Theorem and their connection to the estimates of quantities from data.**

**Enrollment: 35**

**Responses Incl Declines: 9**

**Declines: 0**

### Teaching (Lecture) (11 comments)

**Q: Please provide your thoughts on the instructor's teaching, including strengths and areas for possible improvement.**

- 1 I wish more examples were done. The homework and exams were different than problems done in class sometimes. I liked that he included proofs of things and discussed concepts in depth.**
- 2 Overall teaching is good. I do wish however he would be more specific on certain things. Sometimes I I wouldn't quite understand what was taught in class and didn't ask questions. However, this is my fault since questions are very much encouraged and he is quite friendly and nice. I only wish that less time was spent on easy topics, more time was spent on hard topics, and more difficult examples were done in class.**
- 3 I like how the class had the methods of solving followed by various examples of where these methods were used. This helped to both remember and practice the material. This was further aided by the homework reinforcing the material.**
- 4 Professor Sarantsev has an obvious care for his students and wants them to succeed. His lectures reflect that. He is very clear and concise, fields questions consistently, reiterates important concepts, etc. He was a very enjoyable professor that did his best to connect with students and offer real-world applications for the ideas being taught.**
- 5 All concepts were explained thoroughly and many examples were provided throughout the course.**
- 6 The instructor was somewhat difficult to understand due to a language barrier, with the being said he was exceptionally fair and clear on grading.**

**Q: Please provide your thoughts on the course as a whole, including strengths and areas for possible improvement.**

- 1 Grading for everything and difficulty of all assignments is very fair. For the homework and answer keys, there are usually some mistakes, which I really wish weren't there. They make me double check my work and I find that I'm correct and the keys are not. I think there's been errors on all of the midterm study guide keys. Besides this though it's honestly a pretty great class.**
- 2 The course does well at what it sets out to do which is introduce statistics and probability. I feel that an improvement would be to describe more on what would be furthered in future statistic classes.**
- 3 I thought the class was well-run. It offered enough of a challenge without being entirely overwhelming. It kept a good pace and the consistent application examples kept things interesting and current.**
- 4 Students should have until the final to decide whether they take it or not. Asking students during class or office hours affords the student no time to consider each option and see the effect it may have on their grade. Also some test questions seemed unnecessarily tricky. But great teacher nonetheless. As a student it took me awhile to learn how to be a good student. I expect learning how to teach well also takes time.**
- 5 There were times where the homework did not reflect what was taught in class and I felt I had to self teach some material. Overall, though the course was fair and clear**