

Course Syllabus

ISYE OMA-6644

Simulation and Modeling for Engineering and Science

Spring 2021

(revised 3/28/21)

Professor: Dr. David Goldsman

Course Description

This course covers modeling of discrete-event dynamic systems and introduces simulation-based methods for using these models to solve engineering design and analysis problems.

Prerequisites

You will be expected to come in knowing a bit of basic calculus, probability, and statistics. But don't worry too much – we'll provide bootcamps on that material so as to make the class pretty much self-contained. In addition, this course will involve extensive computer programming, so it would be nice to have at least a little experience in something like Excel, just to bring back the programming memories.

Course Goals

- Learn how to develop simulation models and conduct simulation studies.
- Become familiar with the organization of simulation languages. In particular, we will do a great deal of modeling with Arena, a comprehensive simulation package with animation capabilities.
- Review statistical aspects including input analysis, random variate generation, output analysis, and variance reduction techniques.

Grading Policies

- There will be two **midterms** and a **final exam**. Test questions are typically multiple choice or T/F.
- There will be 13 **Homework** assignments (not as bad as it sounds). The HWs often have bonus questions, which you can do to earn a few extra points. Let r = the number of required questions, R = the # of required questions you answer correctly, and B = the number of bonus questions you answer correctly. Then your overall HW grade will be $100 \cdot (R+B)/r$. **We will allow you to miss or turn in late two homeworks without penalty (and your overall HW grade will be rescaled in a fair way) – but no more.** So plan ahead!
- We will have two **mini-projects**, which you can select from among several theory- and applications-oriented topics. You will be allowed to work in small groups.
- You must achieve an overall weighted average of 60% to pass the course.
- Work hard and you will be rewarded – Grading is usually pretty generous. 😊

- Grading Disputes:
 - **Let's be winners, not whiners.** We are happy to discuss grades, but please make reasonable requests. 😊
 - To this end, we will generously add 4 points to each test (capping your scores at 100); but because of this lovely act of kindness, we will not accept any test grade whining for matters involving up to 4 points. (Makes great sense, eh?!)
 - If you really, really want to request a regrade (for matters involving more than 4 points), simply fill out the convenient form that can be found at http://www.isye.gatech.edu/%7Esman/courses/grade_grovel.pdf.
 - Here is some sage advice on whining: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ow0lr63y4Mw>.
- Grading Breakdown

Homework	10%
Mini-projects	10%
Midterm Exam 1	25%
Midterm Exam 2	25%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

Homework, Project, and Exam Due Dates

All homeworks, projects, and tests will be due at the times in the table at the end of this syllabus. These times are subject to change so please check back often. Please convert from Eastern Daylight Savings Time (EDST) to your local time zone using a [Time Zone Converter](#).

Timing Policy

- The Modules follow a logical sequence, so they (mostly) need to be done in order.
- Homework Assignments and the Project should be completed by their due dates.
- Quizzes must be completed during the time allotted on the schedule.
- You will have access to the course content for the scheduled duration of the course.

Exam Policy

- For Quiz x ($x = 1, 2, 3$), you are allowed to use x sheets of paper, either 8.5"x11" or A4, with handwritten notes (both sides of the sheet, 2x sides total).
- For all quizzes, you are allowed a blank sheet of paper for scratch work. (All OMS Analytics and OMS CS students will be proctored; you will have to show the front and back of the blank sheet while you are being proctored.)
- You are also allowed to bring any reasonable calculator.
- You will **not** be allowed to use packages such as Excel, Arena, R, etc. during the exams.

Attendance Policy

- This is a fully online course.

- Login on a regular basis to complete your work, so that you do not have to spend a lot of time reviewing and refreshing yourself regarding the content.

Plagiarism Policy

- Plagiarism is considered a serious offense. You are not allowed to copy and paste or submit materials created or published by others, as if you created the materials. All materials submitted and posted must be your own.

Student Honor Code

All GT students should abide by the Georgia Tech Student Honor Code.

- Review the Georgia Tech Student Honor Code:
<https://osi.gatech.edu/content/honor-code>
- You are responsible for completing your own work.
- Any GT student suspected of behavior in violation of the Georgia Tech Honor Code will be referred to Georgia Tech's Office of Student Integrity.

Communication

- Feel totally free to contact your instructor, teaching assistants, and fellow learners via the **Piazza** discussion forums. **(Do not email the instructor directly unless it's something really important.)** Often, discussions with fellow learners are the sources of key pieces of learning and are often funny and entertaining. Some suggestions:
 - Always be courteous and nice (see Netiquette below).
 - Please make sure that your subject line **PRECISELY** states what problem you are asking about, as failure to do so causes everyone a great deal of time trying to figure out what you need. For instance, "Fall 2018 Practice Test 3, Question 5a".
 - Your problem may have already been addressed! So make sure that you sniff around the Piazza forum to see if that's the case! That avoids repetitive and redundant and repetitive repetition.
 - Think about your problem a bit and give it the old college try before asking about it on Piazza. Don't give up too early before you punt!

Netiquette

- Netiquette refers to etiquette that is used when communicating on the Internet. Review the Core Rules of Netiquette. When you are communicating via email, discussion forums or synchronously (in real-time), please use correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar consistent with the academic environment and scholarship¹.
- We expect all participants in Georgia Tech's MS in Analytics program, (learners, faculty, teaching assistants, staff) to interact respectfully. Learners who do not adhere to this guideline may be removed from the course.

¹Conner, P. (2006–2014). Ground Rules for Online Discussions, Retrieved 8/14/2020 from <https://tilt.colostate.edu/TipsAndGuides/Tip/128>

Course Materials

- All content and course materials can be accessed online.

- There is no required textbook for this course, though students are encouraged to find copies of the following references:

- Law, A. M., *Simulation Modeling and Analysis*, 5th edition, McGraw-Hill Education, New York, 2015. [This textbook is most for the “theory” aspects of the course.]
- Kelton, W. D., Sadowski, R. P., and Zupick, N. B., *Simulation with Arena*, 6th edition, McGraw-Hill, New York, 2015. [This book covers the Arena simulation language.]
- If you want to review probability and statistics, you can get a **free pdf version** of my book *A First Course in Probability and Statistics* at



<http://www.isye.gatech.edu/%7Esman/courses/6739/A-First-Course-in-Probability-and-Statistics-Student-Version-v201221-free.pdf>. You can also buy an el cheapo softbound version at <https://www.lulu.com/en/us/shop/paul-goldsman-and-david-goldsman/a-first-course-in-probability-and-statistics/paperback/product-46vzip.html>.

Technology/Software Requirements

- Internet connection (DSL, LAN, or cable connection desirable)
- R statistical software (free download; see cran.r-project.org)
- Arena simulation software (free student download; see www.arenasimulation.com/academic/students)
- Adobe Acrobat PDF reader (free download; see <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>)

Disabilities and Special Circumstances

- If you have a disability requiring special accommodations, please make an appointment with the ADAPTS office to discuss the appropriate procedures. Their website is <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu>
- In some cases, religious observances or other events may conflict with scheduled class activities. *In such situations students can be given an alternative means of meeting the academic requirement.* **Students must notify the instructor of any such conflicts, with the specific dates, within the first two weeks of classes.** Students requiring disability accommodations are also requested to make arrangements with the instructor, within the same period if possible.

COVID-19 Related Precautions

Student Illness or Exposure to COVID-19

During the semester, you may be required to quarantine or self-isolate to avoid the risk of infection to others. Quarantine is the separation of those who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 but who are not ill; isolation is the separation of those who have tested positive for COVID-19 or been diagnosed with COVID-19 by symptoms.

If you have not tested positive but are ill or have been exposed to someone who is ill, please follow the [COVID-19 Exposure Decision Tree](#) for reporting your illness.

During the quarantine or isolation period you may feel completely well, ill but able to work as usual, or too ill to work until you recover.

Remote courses and remote class sessions during hybrid courses. Unless you are too ill to work, you should be able to complete your remote work while in quarantine or isolation.

In-person courses and in-person class sessions during hybrid courses. When in isolation or quarantine you will be unable to attend in-person course sessions but your instructor may require you either to participate in the course remotely, complete some complementary work that parallels what you are missing in class, or make up some class work when you return.

If you are ill and unable to do course work this will be treated similarly to any student illness. The Dean of Students will have been contacted when you report your positive test or are told that it is necessary to quarantine and will notify your instructor that you may be unable to attend class events or finish your work as the result of a health issue. Your instructor will not be told the reason. We will be lenient and understanding when setting work deadlines or expecting students to finish work, and so you should be able to catch up with any work that you miss while in quarantine or isolation. We will make available any video recordings of classes or slides that have been used while you are absent, and may prepare some complementary asynchronous assignments that compensate for your inability to participate in class sessions. Ask us for further details when/if necessary.

Course Topics and Pacing Schedule

The table below contains a course topic outline and homework due dates. [Note that some topics below are marked as **OPTIONAL**. You will not be given homework nor will you be tested on those topics; but we have nevertheless included this material in case you need additional review or would like to delve into a topic further.]

Weeks	Course Topics	Release Dates (all times EASTERN)
Week 1 (really 1.5 weeks ☺)	Module 1: Whirlwind Tour of Simulation Lesson 1: Getting to Know You Lesson 2: Syllabus Lesson 3: Whirlwind Tour Lesson 4: Whirlwind Tour – History Lesson 5: What Can We Do for You Lesson 6: Some Baby Examples Lesson 7: More Baby Examples Lesson 8: Generating Randomness Lesson 9 [OPTIONAL] : Simulation Output Analysis	Th Jan 14 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 1 Homework	Homework 1	F Jan 15 at 8:00 a.m. – F Jan 29 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 2	Module 2: Bootcamps Lesson 1 [OPTIONAL] : Calculus Primer Lesson 2 [OPTIONAL] : Saved By Zero! Solving Equations	M Jan 25 at 8:00 a.m.

	Lesson 3 [OPTIONAL]: Integration Lesson 4 [OPTIONAL]: Integration Computer Exercises Lesson 5: Probability Basics Lesson 6: Simulating Random Variables Lesson 7: Great Expectations Lesson 8: Functions of a Random Variable Lesson 9: Jointly Distributed Random Variables	
Week 2 Homework	Homework 2	F Jan 29 at 8:00 a.m. – F Feb 5 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 3	Module 2 (cont): Some More Bootcamps Lesson 10 [OPTIONAL]: Conditional Expectation Lesson 11: Covariance and Correlation Lesson 12: Probability Distributions Lesson 13: Limit Theorems Lesson 14 [OPTIONAL]: Introduction to Estimation Lesson 15 [OPTIONAL]: Maximum Likelihood Estimation Lesson 16 [OPTIONAL]: Confidence Intervals	M Feb 1 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 3 Homework	Homework 3	F Feb 5 at 8:00 a.m. – F Feb 12 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 4	Module 3: Hand Simulations Lesson 1: Stepping Through Differential Equation Lesson 2: Monte Carlo Integration Lesson 3: Monte Carlo Integration Demo Lesson 4: Making Some Pi Lesson 5: A Single-Server Queue Lesson 6: An (s,S) Inventory System Lesson 7: An (s,S) Inventory System Demo Lesson 8: Simulating Random Variables Lesson 9: Simulating Random Variables Demo Lesson 10: Spreadsheet Simulation	M Feb 8 at 8:00 a.m.
Mini-Project 1	Project 1 Topics Announced	M Feb 8 at 8:00 a.m. Topic and group selection due F Feb 12 at 11:59 p.m. Project due M Mar 8 at 11:59 p.m.

Week 4 Homework	Homework 4	F Feb 12 at 8:00 a.m. – F Feb 19 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 5	Module 4: General Simulation Principles Lesson 1: Steps in a Simulation Study Lesson 2: Some Useful Definitions Lesson 3: Time-Advance Mechanisms Lesson 4: Two Modeling Approaches Lesson 5: Simulation Languages	M Feb 15 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 5 Homework	Homework 5	F Feb 19 at 8:00 a.m. – F Feb 26 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 6	Module 5: The Arena Simulation Language Lesson 1: Introduction Lesson 2: Process-interaction Lesson 3: Let's Meet Arena! Lesson 4: The Arena Basic Template Lesson 5: Create-Process-Dispose Modules Lesson 6: The Process Module Lesson 7: Resource, Schedule, and Queue Spreadsheets Lesson 8: The Decide Module Lesson 9: The Assign Module Lesson 10: Attribute, Variable, and Entity Spreadsheets Lesson 11: Arena Internal Variables Lesson 12: Displaying Stuff Lesson 13: Batch, Separate, and Control Lesson 14: Run Setup and Control	M Feb 22 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 6 Homework	Homework 6	F Feb 26 at 8:00 a.m. – F Mar 5 at 11:59 p.m.
Midterm Exam 1	Midterm Exam 1 [Covers up to and including Week 5 material + a tiny bit of Arena material from Week 6. See Topics Attachment.]	F Feb 26 at 8:00 a.m. – Sunday Mar 7 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 7	Module 5 (cont.): More Arena Lesson 15: Two-Channel Manufacturing Example Lesson 16: Fake Customers Lesson 17: The Advanced Process Template Lesson 18: Resource Failures + Maintenance Lesson 19: The Blocks Template Lesson 20: The Joy of Sets	M Mar 1 at 8:00 a.m.

	<p>Lesson 21: Description of Call Center Lesson 22: Call Center Demo Lesson 23: An Inventory Model Lesson 24: One Line vs Two Lines? Lesson 25 [OPTIONAL]: A Re-entrant Queue Lesson 26 [OPTIONAL]: SMARTS Files and Rockwell Demos Lesson 27: A Manufacturing System Demo</p> <p><u>Some new, informal lessons:</u> Lesson 28: Mfg System Details: Advanced Transfer Panel Lesson 29: Mfg System Details: Sequences Lesson 30: Mfg System Details: Advanced Sets Lesson 31: Mfg System Details: Model Walk-Through Lesson 32: Mfg System Details: Transporters and Conveyors</p>	
Week 7 Homework	Homework 7	F Mar 5 at 8:00 a.m. – F Mar 12 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 8	<p>Module 6: Random Number Generation Lesson 1: Introduction Lesson 2: Some Lousy Generators Lesson 3: Linear Congruential Generators Lesson 4: Tausworthe Generators Lesson 5: Generalization of LCGs Lesson 6: Choosing a Good Generator – Some Theory Lesson 7: Choosing a Good Generator – Statistics Tests, Intro Lesson 8: Choosing a Good Generator – Goodness-of-Fit Tests Lesson 9: Choosing a Good Generator – Independence Tests, I Lesson 10 [OPTIONAL]: Independence Tests II</p>	M Mar 8 at 8:00 a.m.
Mini-Project 1	Project 1 Due	DUE M Mar 8 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 8 Homework	Homework 8	F Mar 12 at 8:00 a.m. – F Mar 19 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 9	<p>Module 7: Random Variate Generation Lesson 1: Introduction Lesson 2: Inverse Transform Method Lesson 3.1: ITM – Continuous Examples Lesson 3.2: ITM – Continuous Examples DEMO 1 Lesson 3.3: ITM – Continuous Examples DEMO 2 Lesson 4: Inverse Transform Method - Discrete Examples Lesson 5 [OPTIONAL]: ITM – Empirical Distributions Lesson 6.1: Convolution Method</p>	M Mar 15 (Beware the Ides of March!) at 8:00 a.m.

	<p>Lesson 6.2: Convolution Method DEMO</p> <p>Lesson 7: Acceptance-Rejection Method</p> <p>Lesson 8 [OPTIONAL]: Proof of the A-R Method</p> <p>Lesson 9.1: A-R Method – Continuous Examples</p> <p>Lesson 9.2: A-R Method – Continuous Examples DEMO</p> <p>Lesson 10: A-R Method – Poisson Distribution</p>	
Week 9	Homework 9	F Mar 19 at 8:00 a.m. – F Mar 26 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 10	<p>Module 7 (cont.): More RV Generation</p> <p>Lesson 11 [OPTIONAL]: Composition</p> <p>Lesson 12: Box-Muller Normal RVs</p> <p>Lesson 13: Order Statistics Other Stuff</p> <p>Lesson 14: Multivariate Normal Distribution</p> <p>Lesson 15 [OPTIONAL]: Baby Stochastic Processes</p> <p>Lesson 16.1: Nonhomogeneous Poisson Processes</p> <p>Lesson 16.2: Nonhomogeneous Poisson Processes DEMO</p> <p>Lesson 17.1 [OPTIONAL]: Time Series</p> <p>Lesson 17.2 [OPTIONAL]: Time Series DEMO</p> <p>Lesson 18 [OPTIONAL]: Queueing</p> <p>Lesson 19.1: Brownian Motion</p> <p>Lesson 19.2: Brownian Motion DEMO</p>	M Mar 22 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 10 Homework	Homework 10	F Mar 26 at 8:00 a.m. – F Apr 2 at 11:59 p.m.
Midterm Exam 2	Midterm Exam 2 [Covers up to and including Week 9 material and even a little bit of Week 10, with emphasis on more-recent stuff. See Topics Attachment.]	F Mar 26 at 8:00 a.m. – Sunday Apr 4 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 11	<p>Module 8: Input Analysis</p> <p>Lesson 1: Introduction</p> <p>Lesson 2: Identifying Distributions</p> <p>Lesson 3: Unbiased Point Estimation</p> <p>Lesson 4: Mean Squared Error</p> <p>Lesson 5: Maximum Likelihood Estimators</p> <p>Lesson 6: MLE Examples</p> <p>Lesson 7: Invariance Property of MLEs</p> <p>Lesson 8 [OPTIONAL]: The Method of Moments</p> <p>Lesson 9: Goodness-of-Fit Tests</p> <p>Lesson 10: Exponential Example</p> <p>Lesson 11: Weibull Example</p> <p>Lesson 12: Still More Goodness-of-Fit Tests</p> <p>Lesson 13: Problem Children</p>	M Mar 29 at 8:00 a.m.

	Lesson 14: Demo Time	
Week 11 Homework	Homework 11	F Apr 2 at 8:00 a.m. – F Apr 9 at 11:59 p.m.
Mini-Project 2	Project 2 Topics Announced	M Mar 29 at 8:00 a.m. Topic and group selection due F Apr 2 at 11:59 p.m. Project due M May 3 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 12	Module 9: Output Analysis Lesson 1: Introduction Lesson 2 [OPTIONAL]: Mathematical Interlude Lesson 3: Finite-Horizon Analysis Lesson 4: Finite-Horizon Extensions Lesson 5: Simulation Initialization Issues Lesson 6: Steady-State Analysis Lesson 7 [OPTIONAL]: Properties of Batch Means Lesson 8: Other Steady-State Methods	M Apr 5 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 12 Homework	Homework 12	F Apr 9 at 8:00 a.m. – F Apr 16 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 13	Module 10: Comparing Systems Lesson 1: Introduction Lesson 2: Confidence Interval for the Mean Lesson 3: CIs for the Difference in Two Means Lesson 4: Paired CI for the Difference in Two Means Lesson 5: CIs for the Mean Difference in Simulations Lesson 6: Common Random Numbers Lesson 7: Antithetic Random Numbers Lesson 8 [OPTIONAL]: Control Variates Lesson 9: Ranking and Selection Methods	M Apr 12 at 8:00 a.m.
Week 13 Homework	Homework 13	F Apr 16 at 8:00 a.m. – F Apr 23 at 11:59 p.m.
Week 14	Module 10 (cont.): More Comparing Systems Lesson 10: Normal Means Selection	M Apr 19 at 8:00 a.m.

	Lesson 11: Single-Stage Normal Means Procedure Lesson 12 [OPTIONAL]: Normal Means Extensions Lesson 13: Bernoulli Probability Selection Lesson 14 [OPTIONAL]: Bernoulli Extensions Lesson 15: Multinomial Cell Selection Lesson 16 [OPTIONAL]: Multinomial Procedure + Extensions Lesson 17: Summary	
Week 14 Homework	No Homework (though some sample problems will be handed out)	
Final Exam	Final Exam [Covers everything, with emphasis on more-recent stuff. See Topics Attachment below.]	M Apr 26 at 8:00 a.m. – W May 5 at 11:59 p.m.
Mini-Project 2	Project 2 Due	DUE M May 3 at 11:59 p.m.

Test Topix for ISyE 6644, Spring 2021

- I've tried my best to make this list as complete as possible, but I may have missed a topic or two. That being said, you are responsible for everything that we do in class or homework.
- As GT students, you are expected to formulate problems and solution strategies which are more than mere rote regurgitation of material you learned in class. Thus, you shouldn't be surprised if some questions cover natural extensions of material from class.
- I'll supply all necessary tables, e.g., $N(0,1)$, t , and χ^2 , but you can feel free to use your own.

TEST 1 TOPIX

1. Intro Material

- a. Definition of simulation
- b. Advantages and disadvantages of simulation
- c. History of simulation
- d. Typical questions and applications

2. Calculus, Probability, and Statistics Review

- a. **Calculus [not really responsible for this material, except I might make you search for a zero]**
 - i. Basic definitions
 - ii. Derivatives
 - iii. Solving for zeros
 - iv. Integration
 - v. Numerical integration
- b. Probability Preliminaries
 - i. Conditional probability
 - ii. Independent events
 - iii. Definition of random variable
 - iv. Discrete RV's and probability mass function
 - v. Continuous RV's and probability density function
 - vi. Cumulative distribution function
- c. Simulating RV's (first pass)
 - i. Discrete uniform distribution
 - ii. General discrete distribution
 - iii. Inverse Transform Theorem for continuous RV's
 - iv. Exponential (and other) continuous distributions via IVT.
 - v. Generating $U(0,1)$'s via desert island algorithm, including walk-through of pseudo-code.

- d. Expected Values
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Discrete and continuous examples of expected value
 - iii. Law of the Unconscious Statistician
 - iv. Moments, central moments, variance, standard deviation
 - v. Discrete and continuous examples of LOTUS
 - vi. Moment generating function
 - vii. Examples and properties of mgf's
- e. Functions of a RV
 - i. Discrete examples
 - ii. Continuous examples
 - iii. IVT methods (again) with examples
 - iv. Relationship with LOTUS
- f. Jointly distributed RV's
 - i. Definition of joint cdf
 - ii. Marginal cdf's
 - iii. Joint and marginal pmf's
 - iv. Joint and marginal pdf's
 - v. Examples for discrete and continuous cases
 - vi. Independent RV's
 - vii. Conditional pmf's and pdf's
 - viii. **Conditional expectation [this won't be on the test]**
 - ix. **Double expectation $E(E(Y|X)) = EY$, including examples [this won't be on the test]**
- g. Covariance and correlation
 - i. Definitions
 - ii. Relationship between independence and correlation
 - iii. Examples
 - iv. Miscellaneous properties (e.g., $\text{Var}(X+Y)$, bounds on correlation, etc.)
- h. Probability distributions
 - i. Discrete distributions
 - 1. Bernoulli
 - 2. Binomial
 - 3. Geometric
 - 4. Poisson (including discussion on Poisson processes)
 - ii. Continuous distributions
 - 1. Uniform
 - 2. Exponential (including memoryless property)
 - 3. Erlang, Gamma distributions
 - 4. Triangular
 - 5. Normal (including Standard Normal)

- 6. Other sampling distributions (including chi-square, t, F, and various relationships with each other)
- i. Limit theorems
 - i. Linear combinations of independent normal (including distribution of sample mean)
 - ii. Convergence in distribution
 - iii. Law of Large Numbers
 - iv. Central Limit Theorem for independent and identically distributed data.
 - v. Examples
- j. Statistics Tidbits **[this material will eventually be covered in modules 8, 9, 10, so it's in fair territory to have it on the final! 😊]**
 - i. Properties of sample mean and sample variance
 - ii. Confidence intervals for the mean and variance

3. Hand Simulations

- a. Monte Carlo integration
- b. Determining π via simulation (dart tossing on a circle and sphere)
- c. Single-server queue (including FIFO and LIFO service disciplines)
- d. (s,S) inventory system
- e. Simulating RV's (repeats some material from the Prob/Stats review)
- f. Spreadsheet simulation (e.g., stock portfolio in Excel)

4. General Simulation Principles

- a. Steps in a simulation study
- b. List of various simulation definitions (e.g., event, system state, simulation clock, etc.)
- c. Event-Scheduling vs. Process Interaction modeling approaches
- d. How are events processed?
- e. Future events list + extended example
- f. Simulation languages – what to look for

Plus, the first few Arena mini-topix below...

5. Arena

- a. Layout of Arena screen (panels, modules, etc.)
- b. Basic Process template: CREATE-PROCESS-DISPOSE modules
- c. SEIZE-DELAY-RELEASE inside of the PROCESS module.
- d. Resource, Schedule, Queue, Entity, and other spreadsheets
- e. ASSIGN module
- f. DECIDE module – probabilistic and conditional routing

TEST 2 TOPIX

Everything from Test 1 + the following (with less emphasis placed on the Test 1 material)...

- g. Simple examples, e.g. (partial list),
 - i. Single-server queue
 - ii. Parallel servers
 - iii. Schedules for servers
 - iv. Multiple arrival streams
- h. Displays, graphics, etc.
- i. BATCH and SEPARATE modules
- j. Run set-up and control
- k. More-sophisticated queueing networks (e.g., two-channel manufacturing example, call center example)
 - i. Advanced Process modules (e.g., SEIZE, DELAY, RELEASE modules)
 - ii. Some primitive blocks (e.g., QUEUE)
 - iii. Use of “pretend” customers
 - iv. Nonhomogeneous Poisson arrivals
 - v. Use of resource sets, including how to prioritize servers
 - vi. Use of submodels
- l. Inventory processes
- m. Crazy examples such as re-entrant queues
- n. SMARTS files and other Rockwell examples
- o. Manufacturing systems
 - i. Advanced Transfer modules (e.g., ROUTE, ENTER, LEAVE)
 - ii. Sequences of customer visitation locations
 - iii. Advanced sets of sequences
 - iv. Transporters and conveyors

6. Uniform Random Number Generation

- a. Overview – desirable properties of a pseudo-random number generator
- b. Some generators we won't use, e.g.,
 - i. PRN's from tables
 - ii. Midsquare
- c. Linear congruential generators
 - i. Cycling
 - ii. 16807 desert island generator (again)
 - iii. RANDU (a bad generator)
- d. Tausworthe generator
- e. Combined generators
 - i. L'Ecuyer's generator of cycle length 2^{191}

- ii. Mersenne Twister
- f. Some theoretical considerations, e.g., from Knuth's book
- g. Statistical tests for randomness
 - i. Goodness-of-fit test – Chi-squared
 - ii. Runs tests for independence
 - 1. Runs up and down
 - 2. Runs above and below the mean
 - 3. **Autocorrelation test [this won't be on the test]**

7. Random Variate Generation

- a. Inverse Transform Theorem (yet again)
 - i. Proof
 - ii. Discrete example adaptations
 - iii. Continuous examples
 - 1. Easy ones such as Exponential, Weibull, etc.
 - 2. Slightly harder examples such as Triangle distribution
 - 3. Normal distribution, both exact and approximate methods
 - iv. Special case methods, e.g., Geometric
 - v. **Empirical distributions [this won't be on the test]**
- b. Convolution method
 - i. Binomial
 - ii. Triangle
 - iii. Erlang
 - iv. CLT
 - 1. Desert island sum of Uniforms to generate Normal
 - 2. Normal approximation to Poisson (including continuity correction)
 - v. Cauchy
 - 1. Cauchy's add up to another Cauchy
 - 2. IVT method
 - 3. Ratio of two Normals
- c. Acceptance-Rejection methods
 - i. Trivial Uniform example
 - ii. Some discussion on general method
 - iii. **Proof of the general method [don't expect to see this on the test, unless I'm in a really bad mood!]**
 - iv. Examples involving polynomial and half-normal p.d.f.'s
 - v. Poisson distribution
- d. **Composition [this won't be on the test]**
- e. Special-case techniques
 - i. Box-Muller method for Normal distribution
 - ii. Extensions of B-M, e.g., Cauchy, Chi-squared.

- iii. Generating min's and max's of iid RV's, e.g., min of iid Exponentials.

TEST 3 (FINAL) TOPIX

Everything in the freaking course, including the following new stuff (with less emphasis placed on the Test 1 and 2 material)...

- f. Multivariate Normal
 - i. Definition in 2 and then >2 dimensions
 - ii. Cholesky decomposition method for generating realizations (exact expression in 2 dimensions, algorithm for >2 dimensions)
- g. Stochastic processes
 - i. **Markov chains [this won't be on the test]**
 - ii. Poisson processes
 - iii. Nonhomogeneous Poisson processes (via thinning method)
 - iv. **Time series [this won't be on the test, except stuff you can do from scratch]**
 - 1. MA(1)
 - 2. AR(1)
 - 3. EAR(1)
 - 4. ARTOP
 - v. **M/M/1 queue waiting times [this won't be on the test, unless you can do it from scratch]**
 - vi. Brownian motion
 - 1. Definition and history
 - 2. Elementary properties, including covariance structure
 - 3. General CLT
 - 4. How to generate
 - 5. Geometric BM and financial applications

8. Input Analysis

- a. General discussion
 - i. Careful about GIGO with respect to simulation input
 - ii. What makes a good distribution
 - iii. Identification of obvious distributions
- b. Estimation review
 - i. Unbiased estimators
 - 1. Definition
 - 2. Sample mean
 - 3. Sample variance
 - 4. Other examples such as $\text{Unif}(0, \theta)$

- ii. Mean squared error
 - iii. Maximum likelihood estimators
 - 1. Definition
 - 2. Examples such as Exponential
 - 3. Two-dimensional examples such as Normal with unknown mean and variance
 - 4. Other tougher examples such as $\text{Unif}(0,\theta)$ and Gamma
 - 5. Invariance Property + examples
 - iv. **Method of Moments [this won't be on the test (sorry, MoM!)]**
- c. Goodness-of-fit tests for input distributions
 - i. Chi-squared for Exponential
 - ii. Chi-squared for Weibull, including search techniques such as bisection and Newton
 - iii. Kolmogorov-Smirnov
 - iv. More goodness-of-fit tests
- d. Problem Children
 - i. Little or no data
 - ii. Data from an unusual distribution
 - iii. Nonstationary data
 - iv. Multivariate / correlated data
- e. Arena Input Analyzer demo

9. Output Analysis

- a. Introduction
 - i. The need for output analysis in a proper statistical study
 - ii. Simulation data isn't iid normal, and this is a problem
 - iii. Types of output analysis – finite-horizon (terminating) and steady-state
- b. A mathematical interlude related to the fact that the variance of the sample mean isn't $\text{Var}(X_i)/n$, and its consequences **[I might ask you to calculate the variance of the sample mean for a specific process, but nothing else.]**
- c. Finite-horizon (terminating) simulations
 - i. Examples
 - ii. Confidence intervals for mean performance via the method of Independent Replications
- d. Initialization problems
- e. Steady-state analysis for a single system
 - i. Examples
 - ii. Confidence intervals for the steady-state mean via the method of Batch Means
 - iii. Properties of Batch Means **[The more-mathematical aspects of this topic this won't be on the test.]**

- iv. Overlapping Batch Means
- v. Other methods

10. Comparing Systems

- a. Classical confidence interval for the mean of one normal population
- b. Classical confidence interval to compare the means of two normal systems
 - i. Variance completely unknown
 - ii. Paired-t CI
 - iii. Use in simulation scenarios
- c. Variance reduction techniques
 - i. Common random numbers
 - ii. Antithetic random numbers [no theory related to this will be on the test]
 - iii. **Control variates [this won't be on the test]**
- d. Ranking and selection methods to compare means of >2 systems
 - i. Definition of problem
 - ii. Relevance to simulation
 - iii. Indifference-zone approach
 - iv. Normal means selection problem
 - Bechhofer's single-stage procedure
 - **Extensions [this won't be on the test]**
 - v. Bernoulli parameter selection problem
 - Sobel and Huyett single-stage procedure
 - **Extensions [this won't be on the test]**
 - vi. Multinomial cell selection problem
 - Multinomial review and motivation
 - Bechhofer, Elmaghraby, and Morse single-stage procedure
 - **Extensions [this won't be on the test]**