

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
The City University of New York  
524 West 59<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY, 10019

Syllabus for: MAT 301H, Honors Introduction to Applied Probability and Statistics

**Professor's name: Nicholas Petraco**

**Room: 6.61 New Building**

**Contact hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:05pm-4:20pm

**E-mail address:** [npetraco@gmail.com](mailto:npetraco@gmail.com)

**Course website:** <http://jjcweb.jjay.cuny.edu/npetraco/class/mat301/mat301.html>

**Course Description:**

Physical and digital evidence comparison has been “put under the microscope” since the 2009 publication of the National Academy of Sciences report “Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward”. The implementation of more quantitative/data driven techniques and standard operating procedures is a foregone conclusion. Forensic scientists not familiar with statistical methods of data analysis will be at a severe disadvantage. The purpose of this hands-on course is to acquaint forensic science undergraduate students with statistical methods that are applicable to evidence they will encounter, as well as, issues and pitfalls to be aware of when applying these methods.

It is not adequate to simply learn the “theory” behind the methodology encountered in this course. It must be applied on real data of practical interest to the forensic science. As such this course will build expertise in the general scientific/statistical computing environment R (<http://www.r-project.org/>). The course assumes minimal knowledge of computers and statistical procedures. It is designed to build the student's skill set and confidence in both of these areas. Topics covered will include a basic data descriptive tools, graphing, probability theory, discrete/continuous distributions, estimation and hypothesis testing.

Course materials will be posed on the following website:

**<http://jjcweb.jjay.cuny.edu/npetraco/class/mat301/mat301.html>**

**Learning outcomes:**

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Choose an appropriate probability or statistical model for a particular problem.
2. Know what conditions are typically required for the use of particular probability and statistical models and be able to assess whether those conditions are reasonably met.
3. Interpret calculated solutions of particular statistical models.
4. Make appropriate inferences using the chosen statistical models.
5. Use the R software system to handle datasets, display datasets graphically, and do probability computations, statistical analyses, and computer simulation.

## Requirements / course policies

Unethical/unprofessional conduct which includes cheating will result in a failing grade and referral for additional action. Attendance in lecture and exams is mandatory. More than five unexcused absences from lecture will result in an automatic failing grade. Unexcused lateness or early departure will count as ½ an absence, up to 30 minutes. After 30 minutes you will be marked absent.

**No make up exams will be given.** Failure to take a scheduled examination without a valid and independently supported official documentation from a medical provider at least 48 hours in advance (unless the emergency is induced by god(s) of your choice, subsequent to the 48 hour cutoff, where in a valid and independently supported official documentation from a medical provider is still required) will result in a zero grade for that examination.

## Required Electronic Text and Resources:

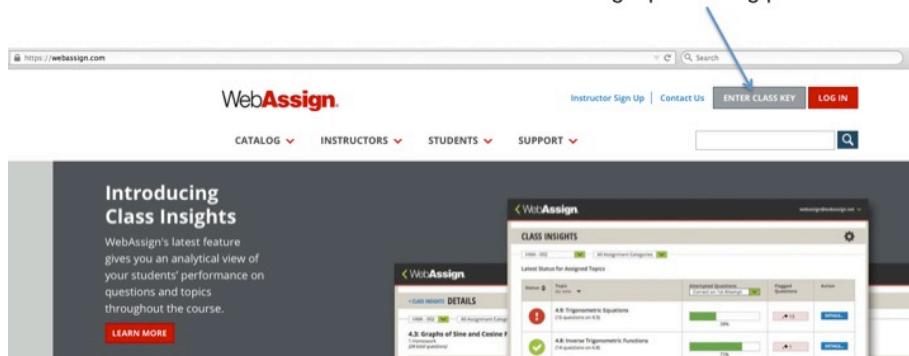
Probability and Statistics for Engineering and the Sciences - 8e  
J. L. Devore

- The Assignments/Electronic Text can be purchased at:

<https://webassign.com/>

- In order to purchase click on “Enter Class Key”:

Click to begin purchasing process



- You should see a place to enter the class key:

WebAssign.

Enter class key here

## Enroll with Class Key

Enter the Class Key that you received from your instructor. You will only need to complete this once. After you have created your account, you can log in on the main page.

Class Key



Class Keys generally start with an institution code, followed by two sets of four digits.

SUBMIT

○ Students Registered for Petraco MAT 301H section 1:

▪ **3:05pm-4:20pm** Class Key: **jjay.cuny 9440 8106**

- After logging in/creating-account, eventually the website will prompt you to purchase the materials for the class:

Purchase online access:



WebAssign.

Home My Assignments Grades Communication Calendar My eBooks

Home

WebAssign Notices

⚠ According to our records you have not yet redeemed an access code for this class or purchased access online.

The grace period will end Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM EDT. After that date you will no longer be able to see your WebAssign assignments or grades, until you enter an access code or purchase access online.

I would like to:

☒ purchase access online

☐ enter an access code (purchased with textbook or from a bookstore)

☐ continue my trial period (21 days remaining)

Continue

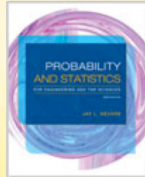
- Purchase “Probability and Statistics for Engineering and the Sciences - 9e by Devore”, which should be ~\$29.95:

### Select Items

For some courses, you can purchase access to an eBook for the duration of the course; other courses might include eBook access.

Some publisher content is made available subject to additional licensing restrictions. Review and confirm any license agreements that are displayed.

#### ☒ MAT 301, section Petraco 1



*Probability and Statistics for Engineering and the Sciences - 9e by Devore*

ENHANCED



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### Grading:

The grades for this course are based on home works (25%), two exams (50%) and a final (25%).

**Course lecture/laboratory calendar:**

Lecture	Date	Topic
1	-	Introduction, Terminology, Basic Graphing
2	-	Introduction, Terminology, Basic Graphing
3	-	Summarizing Data
4	-	Probability
	20-22 Feb	No class Make-up assignment
5	-	Probability
6	-	Discrete Distributions
7	-	Discrete Distributions
8	1-Mar	<b>Exam 1</b>
	-	Continuous Distributions
9	-	Continuous Distributions
10	-	Point Estimation and Sampling Distributions
11	-	Point Estimation and Sampling Distributions
12	-	Interval Estimation: Confidence
13	-	Interval Estimation: Confidence
14	-	Interval Estimation: Prediction and Tolerance
15	-	Interval Estimation: Prediction and Tolerance
16	20-22 Mar	No class Make-up assignment
17	-	One Sample and Two Sample Hypothesis Testing
18	-	One Sample and Two Sample Hypothesis Testing
19	-	One Sample and Two Sample Hypothesis Testing
20	3-5 Apr	
21	-	Analysis of Variance
22	-	Analysis of Variance
24	-	Analysis of Variance
	17-Apr	<b>Exam 2</b>
25	-	Regression
26	-	Regression
27	-	Regression
28	-	Catch up and Review
29	-	Catch up and Review
	22-May	<b>Final 3:30pm-5:30pm</b>
	-	

**College wide policies for undergraduate courses** (see the *Undergraduate Bulletin*, Chapter IV Academic Standards)

**A. Incomplete Grade Policy**

## **B. Extra Work During the Semester**

### **C. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policies**

“Qualified students with disabilities will be provided reasonable academic accommodations if determined eligible by the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS). Prior to granting disability accommodations in this course, the instructor must receive written verification of a student’s eligibility from the OAS which is located at L66 in the new building (212-237-8031). It is the student’s responsibility to initiate contact with the office and to follow the established procedures for having the accommodation notice sent to the instructor.”

Source: *Reasonable Accommodations: A Faculty Guide to Teaching College Students with Disabilities*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., City University of New York, p.3.  
([http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/studentlife/Reasonable\\_Accommodations.pdf](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/studentlife/Reasonable_Accommodations.pdf))

### **Statement of the College Policy on Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s ideas, words, or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one’s own creation. Using the ideas or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations require citations to the original source.

Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

It is the student’s responsibility to recognize the difference between statements that are common knowledge (which do not require documentation) and restatements of the ideas of others. Paraphrase, summary, and direct quotation are acceptable forms of restatement, as long as the source is cited.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The Library has free guides designed to help students with problems of documentation. (*John Jay College of Criminal Justice Undergraduate Bulletin*, <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/academics/654.php> , see Chapter IV Academic Standards)