

Math 170A - Fall 2017: Syllabus

Noah White

Location and time

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 12-12:50pm, MS 6229

Discussion: Tuesday 12-12:50pm, MS 6229

Instructor and TAs

Instructor Noah White (noah@math.ucla.edu)

TA Robbie Housden (rhousden@math.ucla.edu)

Textbook

Introduction to Probability by D. P. Bertsekas and John N. Tsitsiklis.

Problem sets, homework, and quizzes

There will be a problem set assigned every week. These will not be collected however it is strongly recommended that you complete them.

In weeks 3, 6, 10 there will be a quiz will be conducted in the discussion sessions. Questions on the quiz will be drawn from the problem set (or will be very similar to one of these questions).

In weeks 2, 5, 9 a selection of questions from the problem set will be assigned as homework to be collected on the Friday as indicated in the tentative schedule below. The lowest 2 scores out of all homeworks and quizzes will be dropped. The homework and quizzes will count for a total of 10% of your grade.

Collection of, and late homework

Homework will be collected at the start of the lecture on the due date as indicated in the class schedule below. Late homework will not be accepted. In extenuating circumstances you are able to email your homework however this must be arranged prior to the due date and time with the instructor.

Collaboration on homework

Collaboration in small groups (< 5 people) on homework is encouraged! All homework must be written up individually in your own words, i.e. you are

allowed to share and discuss ideas and methods for solving the homework questions but the presentation of your solution must be your own, you may not copy someone else's solution word for word. All collaborators must be acknowledged at the top of your homework, e.g. *"For this assignment I collaborated with: Humphrey B. Bear, Blinky Bill and Ferry Boat Fred"*.

Failure to adhere to these rules for collaboration will be treated as academic dishonesty/cheating.

Exams

There will be two midterms and a final exam. The date and time of each exam is not flexible and there will be no make-up exams. Other than the below exceptions, you may only bring writing equipment into the exam (no phones, textbooks, etc)

Midterm 1: 12-12:50pm Monday, 23 October, 2017

Midterm 2: 12-12:50pm Monday, 20 November, 2017

Final Exam: 3-6pm Friday, 15 December, 2017

Cheatsheets: For each exam, students may bring a cheat sheet. Each student must prepare their own handwritten cheat sheet. For the midterms, the cheat-sheet may consist of one side of half a standard (A4 or letter) sheet of paper (i.e. A5 or letter folded in half lengthways). For the final, the cheat sheet may consist of one side of a standard sheet of paper. Cheatsheets that do not meet these requirements will be confiscated at the beginning of the exam.

Calculators: You may use a non-programmable, non-graphing calculator in exams. Calculators not meeting this specification will be confiscated.

Questions about grades

If you have a question about the grade assigned to one of your homework assignments, quizzes or exams please make the instructor aware of your query as soon as possible. Grades will only be able to be changed within 14 days of when the piece of work was handed back, or in the case of exams, 14 days from the date of the exam.

Grading

Your final grade will be calculated using the maximum of the following two grading schemes.

$10\% \text{ (best 4 quizzes/homework scores)} + 40\% \text{ (combined midterms)} + 50\% \text{ (final)}$

or

$10\% \text{ (best 4 quizzes/homework scores)} + 30\% \text{ (best midterm)} + 60\% \text{ (final)}$

Class schedule

A tentative schedule is available on the course website.

Discrimination

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Students who have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, 1st Floor Wooden Center West, CAREadvocate@caps.ucla.edu, (310) 206-2465. You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the Universitys Title IX Coordinator, Kathleen Salvaty, 2241 Murphy Hall, titleix@conet.ucla.edu, (310) 206-3417.