

S14 - Survival Models and Actuarial Applications - 2018/19

Course codes: M3S14 (3rd year UG), M4S14 (4th year UG), M5S14 (MSc students)

Lecturer: Professor Axel Gandy

Office hour: Tuesdays, 13.00-13.50 (530 Huxley)

Virtual Learning Environment

The course material will be made available at <http://bb.imperial.ac.uk>. If you have problems logging into the system, please contact ICT; I will not be able to help.

To get access to the course material themselves, within Blackboard, search for the course (click on “Courses” in the top right corner of the page - and search for the course - the Course ID is “COURSE-M345S14-18_19” and the course name is “M345S14 Survival Models and Actuarial Applications (2018-2019)”. Then click on the arrow that appears when your mouse hovers over the “course ID” and click “enrol”).

Lectures

I will make the main material of the lectures available before each lecture. Before the lectures of each week, I expect you to

- read the material of the lectures of the upcoming week,
- answer a simple online quiz about the material (by Monday morning 9am) and
- put questions to be addressed in the lecture in the blog “Questions for Lectures”.

During each lecture, I will

- relatively quickly run through the material you have read,
- discuss the questions of the quiz,
- answer your questions (from the blog or asked during class; you have read the material beforehand, so there should be questions), and,
- go through additional examples / illustrations not in the lecture notes, do demonstrations, or discuss some of the assessed or non-assessed coursework.

To make the best use of the lectures, bring a printed copy of the notes to annotate.

I will upload annotated versions of the lecture notes (but potentially with some delay). Also, I aim to record my lectures via Panopto (but I cannot guarantee that the recording will always work).

Quizzes

Every week there will be a quiz about the upcoming material. The questions will be relatively simple, but they will require you to read through the material of the upcoming lectures. You need to complete the quiz by Monday morning 9am.

All quizzes together count as one assessed coursework. There will be a time limit on the quizzes (1 hour) - so I strongly suggest you read the material before you start the quiz. Quizzes will be available no later than Thursday, 5pm (I aim to have them available by Tuesday 5pm, but technical problems /delays might prevent me from doing so).

Being part of your assessment you **MUST** answer the questions individually, without the help of others (if you have not recently done so, please read the College Cheating Policies).

The first quiz (for week 3 of the term) will not count towards the overall quiz mark (to sort out any technical problems). Your worst quiz result will not count. All other quiz marks are averaged and together count 5% for of your course mark.

Assessed Coursework

There will be one piece of assessed coursework with an anticipated due date of Friday, 15 March 2019 at 4pm (exact time to be determined). You will receive the coursework two weeks before the deadline. This coursework counts for 5% of your course mark.

Examination

There will be an exam in the summer - for precise timing please refer to the examination timetable. Students may not take an M4/5 module if they have already taken the M3 version.

If you are on the M4 or M5 version of this course, you will have to study additional material (which will be made available in due course), which you will have to study to prepare for the mastery exam question.

Non-assessed coursework / Problem classes

To enhance your understanding of the material, there will be non-assessed problem sheets. I expect that you work through these. I will provide solutions to most questions with a suitable delay.

Some of the lectures will be designated as problem classes, during which I will be working through some of the problems of the non-assess coursework. Usually, there will be one problem class every two weeks.

Actuarial Exam Exemptions

(The following needs confirmation - the actuarial examinations are undergoing change) Exemptions from some actuarial examinations are available following an agreement with The Actuarial Profession. Roughly speaking, you can apply for exemptions from the following exam:

- CT3: exemption obtained by attaining a 2:1 grade average in the modules M1S Probability and Statistics and M2S2 Statistical Modelling I
- CT4: exemption obtained by attaining a 2:1 grade in M3S14/M4S14/M5S14

The academic contact for actuarial exemptions is Dr Nick Heard (room 545, Huxley), n.heard@imperial.ac.uk. You can request an “actuarial examination exemption letter” from the UG Maths office - you need to fill in a form, sign it and hand it in to the UG office.