

MATH 3355: Probability, Fall 2012  
Lectures: Lockett 239, MWF 2:30 – 3:20

<b>Professor:</b> Karl Mahlburg <b>Office:</b> Lockett 228 <b>Office Hour:</b> T 1:00 – 2:00 <b>E-mail:</b> mahlburg@math.lsu.edu <b>Phone:</b> 8-2658 <b>Webpage:</b> www.math.lsu.edu/~mahlburg
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**Website** All important course announcements will be found in LSU's *Moodle* system, including lecture information, homework assignments, and exam reviews. Please check it frequently!

**Textbook** Saeed Ghahramani, *Fundamentals of Probability, 3rd Edition*, Prentice Hall, 2005.

**Content** We will study several topics in Probability, spending one to two weeks each learning introductory material in random variables, expectation, conditional probability, law of large numbers, central limit theorem, and stochastic processes. We will cover portions of Chapters 1 – 11 from the textbook.

**Prerequisites** You must have completed MATH 2057: Multidimensional Calculus (or an approved equivalent) in order to take this course.

**Schedule** Due to University holidays, this class will **not** be held on Monday, Sep. 3; Friday, Oct. 19; Wednesday, Nov. 21; or Friday, Nov. 23. If you are unable to attend the regularly held office hours, you may also schedule an appointment.

**Grading** The assignment of points in the course will be broken down as follows:

	Percentage
<b>Problem Sets</b>	30%
<b>2 Midterm Exams</b>	40%
<b>Final Exam</b>	30%

Grades will be assigned according to the usual scale:

90% – 100%: A, 80% – 90%: B, 70% – 80%: C, 60% – 70%: D, 0% – 60%: F.

These scores are guaranteed to earn at least the grades listed above, but final grades may also be further curved and adjusted depending on the overall performance of the class.

**Exams** No supplemental materials are allowed during exams, including calculators, computers, class notes, etc. You may not communicate by any means with other students during exams. If you have any conflicts with the scheduled exam times, or have any University-approved special needs, you must inform me *in advance*.

<b>Exam 1</b>	Wednesday, Oct. 10 (in-class)
<b>Exam 2</b>	Wednesday, Nov. 7 (in-class)
<b>Final Exam</b>	Saturday, Dec. 8, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

**Homework** Homework assignments will be due on most **Fridays** at the beginning of class (2:30), and returned on Mondays. You will be expected to write rigorous *proofs*, which means that you must carefully and precisely support your reasoning.

On each assignment, five *randomly* chosen problems will be graded, which will be the basis for your score.

**Group Work** You are allowed, and even encouraged to work in small groups on homework assignments, subject to the following conditions:

1. You must list the names of all of the other students with whom you discussed the problems at the top of your assignment;
2. You must write up your own solutions using your own words and arguments.

**Conduct** LSU students are expected to maintain high standards of academic integrity. Any incidences of suspected cheating on exams and quizzes will be reported directly to the Judicial Affairs Division in the Dean of Students Office; offenses can result in loss of course credit or expulsion from the university. Instances of direct copying on homework assignments will result in loss of credit for **both** students involved.

Scientific calculators and touchscreen or stylus computers are allowed *solely* for note-taking. Cell phones, MP3 players, and all other electronic devices are not allowed in the classroom at any time.