

MAT 721, SPRING 2018

Instructor: Professor Philip Griffin, Carnegie 304C, 443-1480, psgriffi@syr.edu

Office Hours: T Th 1:15-2:45 and by appointment

Text: *Probability: Theory and Examples*, 4th Edition by Richard Durrett

This is an introductory graduate level course in probability theory. The aim is to introduce students to the basic concepts such as random variable, distribution, expectation and independence. We will then undertake a detailed study of the classical limit theorems for sums of independent random variables proving the weak and strong laws of large numbers and the central limit theorem. Other topics will be covered as time permits. The basic material for this course is contained in the first four chapters of Durrett's book. Other useful references are;

1. *A course in Probability Theory*, by K.L. Chung
2. *Probability and Measure*, by P. Billingsley

Grading. Homework and a final exam will be used to determine your grade for the course. You may discuss the homework problems with each other, but you must write up your own solution to hand in.

Students with disabilities. If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented Disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.

Related link: <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu/faculty-staff/syllabus-statement/>

Religious observances policy. SU religious observances policy recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to are religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes. For fall and spring semesters, an online notification process is available through MySlice (Student Services - > Enrollment -> My Religious Observances) from the first day of class until the end of the second week of class.

Related link: http://supolicies.syr.edu/studs/religious_observance.htm

Academic Integrity. Syracuse University sets high standards for academic integrity. Those standards are supported and enforced by students, including those who serve as academic integrity hearing panel members and hearing officers. The presumptive sanction for a first offense is course failure, accompanied by the transcript notation “Violation of the Academic Integrity Policy”. The standard sanction for a first offense by graduate students is suspension or expulsion. Students should review the Office of Academic Integrity online resource “Twenty Questions and Answers About the Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy” and confer with instructors about course-specific citation methods, permitted collaboration (if any), and rules for examinations. The Policy also governs the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verification of participation in class activities. Additional guidance for students can be found in the Office of Academic Integrity resource: “What does academic integrity mean?”

Related links: The Academic Integrity Policy: <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/> Twenty Questions and Answers about the Academic Integrity Policy: <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/faculty-resources/> What does academic integrity

Cell Phones. Cell phones should be turned off and put away during class.