STT 441-2
Probability and Statistics I

Time: M-W-F, 3:00-3:50pm
Location: B209 Berkey Hall
Instructor: Ping-Shou Zhong
Office Hours: M-W, 4:00pm-5:00pm at C418 Wells Hall and by appointment
E-mail: pszhong@stt.msu.edu
Textbook:
Ross, Sheldon M., A First Course in Probability (8nd edition).
Prerequisite:
MATH 234 or MTH 254H or LB 220

Objectives and Course Content

STT-441 is a course on probability which designed for students who had at least four courses in calculus or higher level mathematics. We will cover most of Chapter 1 to 7 and selected topics in Chapter 8 in the textbook, but it depends on our progress. Specific topics includes: Probability models and basic statistics at an intermediate mathematical level; Discrete, continuous, univariate, and multivariate distributions; Random variables; Normal approximation.

Homework and Quizzes

There will be six homework assignments during the semester and the lowest homework score will be dropped. Homework will be due at the beginning of class on the specified date. No late homework will be accepted. There will be also six 20 minutes quizzes. Quiz questions will be based on homework problems and the examples given in classes. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. The tentative dates for quizzes are

Quiz 1: Jan 26; Quiz 2: Feb 9; Quiz 3: Feb 23;
Quiz 4: Mar 30; Quiz 5: Apr 13; Quiz 6: Apr 27.

Exams and Grading Policy

Your final score will be based on scores in homework, quizzes, two middle-term exams and final exam. The percentage of the each part to the final score is listed below:

Homework 15% (3% each)
Quizzes 25% (5% each)
Two Mid-Term Exams  20% each  (In class, Fri., Mar. 6 and Fri., Apr. 10)
Final Exam  20%  (Wed., May 6, 3:00-5:00pm, B209 Berkey Hall A108)

If you are unable to attend the final exam, you must contact the instructor before the
day of the exam. All excuses must be verifiable. The make-up exams and quizzes will
be given only under exceptional circumstances.

A tentative criterion for the final grade is

4.0(>=90%), 3.5(80-89%), 3.0(70-79%), 2.5(60-69%),
2.0(50-59%),1.5(40-49%), 1.0(30-39%), 0.0(0-29%).

Important Dates:

1/12/15   Classes Begin
1/16/15   Late Enrollment Fee Begins
1/19/15   Martin Luther King Day— No Classes
2/06/15   End of Tuition Refund Period for Spring Semester
3/04/15   MIDDLE OF SEMESTER
          Deadline to drop courses for spring semester with no grade reported
3/09-3/13 /15   Spring Break
5/01/15   LAST DAY OF CLASSES
5/06/15   Final Exam (Wed. 3:00-5:00pm)

Academic Honesty:

The Department of Statistics and Probability adheres to the policies of academic
honesty as specifies in the General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarships
and Grades, and in the All-University of Integrity of Scholarship and Grades which are
included in Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide. Student who
plagiarize will receive a grade 0.0 on the assignment or exam.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities should contact the Resource Center for People with
Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. If you are eligible for
an accommodation, you will be issued a verified individual service accommodation
(VISA) form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term or two weeks
prior to the accommodation date.

The instructor reserves the right to make any changes that he deems academically
advisable.