Course website
http://math.pugetsound.edu/~jbernhard

Contact information

James Bernhard • jbernhard@pugetsound.edu • Thompson Hall 390G

See the course website for my office hours. My office phone number is 253-879-3812, but the phone is usually one of the slowest ways to reach me. Email is usually much faster. (All of my email is forwarded to another account, and you may receive email from me at that account as well.)

The course website is the best resource for information about the course. Among other things, it contains a complete calendar for the semester, including all assignments. Also, if you email me a password, you will be able to access your grade-to-date any time during the semester via the course website.

Learning objectives

The main goals of this course are:

• To learn how to learn mathematics.
• To practice reading, writing, and presenting mathematics.
• To learn about the subject of probability theory.

The third goal includes building a solid foundation in probability theory, one suitable for pursuing (among other things) any of the following:

• graduate studies in statistics or biostatistics
• graduate studies in mathematics or applied mathematics
• an actuarial career.

Prerequisites

To take this course, you should have successfully completed Mathematics 280 (Multivariate Calculus) and Mathematics 290 (Linear Algebra). If you have not completed both of these, please see me so that we can discuss the suitability of this course for you.

Course materials

The required text for this course is Elementary Probability for Applications by Rick Durrett (2009), available at the campus bookstore. No other particular course materials are required, although you may find it convenient at times to use a calculator or computer program such as R or Sage.

That said, I will expect your work to be word-processed on a computer and submitted by email. If you are not already familiar with how to typeset mathematics (such as with LaTeX, LyX, Word’s equation editor, etc.), you will need to become familiar with this dur-
ing the semester. I would be happy to help you with this. You will not be graded on your typographical skills, but you will need to be able to use them to communicate successfully.

**Coursework**

The coursework consists of:
- Approximately weekly homework assignments, usually due in class on Wednesdays.
- Three take-home tests throughout the semester.
- A review project at the end of the semester.

There is no final exam for this course. The course is finished on the last day of class.

The homework assignments are to help you learn the material that will be covered on the tests, and you should use them as a learning tool. You are allowed to work with others on all homework problems except those designated as solo problems. The solo problems will give you practice in the solitary problem-solving skills required for the take-home tests.

On each homework assignment, you will turn in by email both the solo and the other problems, both in the same file (with the solo problem first). I will grade the solo problem but not the other problems. On the three take-home tests, however, you will be allowed to use all of the homework problems that you submitted to me (on time), including both the solo and the other problems. So while your write-ups on the solo problem should be addressed to both yourself and me, the write-ups on the other problems are solely for you. They should consist of anything that will help you when you consult them on the tests.

**Grading**

Your grade will be based on my assessment of your understanding of the material. By default, I will weight the various components of the course as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 3</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review project</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, these weights are subject to change due to individual circumstances, so if you believe the above components do not accurately represent your understanding of the material, then you should let me know. If the circumstances dictate, I can work with you to find another way to demonstrate your understanding of the material.

**Policy on late work**

I will not accept late work without an appropriate reason, which you should explain to me before the work is late if possible. If you are falling behind or need to turn something in late, please see me so that we can discuss it.

Note that this policy is particularly important in that if you would like to use your homework write-ups on the tests, you must turn them in on time unless you arrange with me otherwise to accommodate your particular circumstances.
**Academic honesty**

You are allowed to work with anyone—including each other, tutors, and me—on problems not designated as solo problems on the homework assignments, as long as you do so in a way that helps you learn the material. You are not allowed to work with anyone else on homework problems designated as solo problems. You are not allowed to work with anyone on any of the tests, and you should not discuss a test with anyone until the class has completed it and turned it in. If you have any questions on the solo problems or tests, you are allowed to ask me but no one else. On the review project, you are allowed to work with students in your group and myself but no one else.

For general information on issues of academic honesty, see the official University of Puget Sound academic honesty policy at:

http://www.pugetsound.edu/student-life/student-resources/student-handbook/academic-handbook/academic-integrity/

**University emergency response procedures**

Please review university emergency preparedness and response procedures posted at www.pugetsound.edu/emergency/. There is a link on the university home page. Familiarize yourself with hall exit doors and the designated gathering area for your class and laboratory buildings.

If building evacuation becomes necessary (e.g. earthquake), meet your instructor at the designated gathering area so she/he can account for your presence. Then wait for further instructions. Do not return to the building or classroom until advised by a university emergency response representative.

If confronted by an act of violence, be prepared to make quick decisions to protect your safety. Flee the area by running away from the source of danger if you can safely do so. If this is not possible, shelter in place by securing classroom or lab doors and windows, closing blinds, and turning off room lights. Lie on the floor out of sight and away from windows and doors. Place cell phones or pagers on vibrate so that you can receive messages quietly. Wait for further instructions.

**Disabilities**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Peggy Perno, Director of Disability Services, 105 Howarth Hall, 253-879-3395. She will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

**Other**

Feel free to contact me with any questions you have regarding the course. I look forward to an enjoyable class with you this semester!