

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Section 02, 8-250, TTh 1:00pm-2:15pm

Instructor: Professor Stephen Wirkus,
 swirkus@csupomona.edu (e-mail), 869-4513 (phone), 8-216 (office)
 All course info will be posted at my URL: www.csupomona.edu/~swirkus

Office Hours: Tues, 10:00am-11:00am, Wed, 10:00am-12:30noon, Thurs, 10:00am-11:30pm

Prerequisites: Must have a C or better in MAT 116 Analytical Geometry and Calculus III, or MAT 131 Technical Calculus II.

Textbook: *Probability and Statistics for Engineering and the Sciences*, 6th Ed., by J.L.Devore.

Computer: Many of the homework assignments may involve the use of computer programs (such as Excel, Minitab, etc.). Access to these program is essential to success in this course and they are available in the Math Computer Lab (8-147).

Homework: Homework will be assigned every Tuesday and is due the following Tuesday, by 2:00p.m. in 8-216. **NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!!** You are expected to hand in *neat* solutions to all of the assigned problems. Some of the homework will require use of the computer. These problems are to be written up and explained too. Although a picture may be worth a thousand words, I still want you to explain in writing everything you turn in.

Course organization: The course lasts 10 weeks. The format is three lectures each week. Due to the limited time, it is important to try to attend all classes. The sections have 30 students in order to optimize dialogue between the students and the teachers as well as among the students themselves. Asking questions and participating in class is strongly recommended. Feel free to take advantage of office hours.

Exam Schedule: (Please note that I will *not* give practice exams or practice problems.)

Exam 1	Thurs 4/26
Exam 2	Thurs, 5/24
Final Exam (cumulative)	Thursday, 6/7/07, 11:30 p.m - 1:30 p.m.

Grading: Course grades will be determined on a basis of 400 points.

Exam 1 (100 points), Exam 2 (100 points), Final Exam (150 points), Homework (50 points).

The following grading standard will be used:

no A+	A : 93-100%	A- : 90-92%
B+ : 87-89%	B : 83-86%	B- : 80-82%
C+ : 77-79%	C : 73-76%	C- : 69-72%
D+ : 68%	D : 61-67%	D- : 60%
F : below 60%		

If you reach these percentages, you are guaranteed to receive the appropriate letter grade.

Study habits: You cannot expect to instantly understand everything that is said in class. You might have to be satisfied with just picking up a general idea during class and then sorting out the details later, using your class notes, the book, going over concepts with other classmates and/or going to office hours. This should be done on a regular basis, not just the night before the homework is due. Test your understanding by immediately trying the relevant homework problems.

You are expected to read all the sections of the book that are covered in this course. You can do this either before or after the material is discussed in class, whichever you find more effective. The reading is often slow-going; it is not like reading a novel. Use pencil and paper to work through the material as you read it, filling in omitted steps. If, for example, the author says, “A computation shows that . . .,” you should take your pencil and do that computation.

Exam Info: Only scientific calculators will be allowed on exams. You may NOT use a graphing calculator on the exam even if you promise not to use the extra options.

There is a lot of memorization involved in this course. If you begin studying for the exam the night before or only study 5 hours for the exam, you will probably not perform that well. In studying for exams, you should work as many problems as possible (in addition to going over assigned homework problems and practice exams).

There are also concepts that are very important. To be tested on these problems, you will need to first understand the concept in order set up the problem and then you will also need to be able to solve the problem that you just set up.

Academic Integrity: See pages 52-53 of the 2005-2007 Cal Poly Pomona Course Catalog for the official rules. In summary, if you are caught cheating, you will receive a zero on the assignment/exam and this incident will be reported to the Director of Judicial Affairs at Cal Poly Pomona. If deemed appropriate, a failing grade will also be given in the course.

You are, however, *highly encouraged* to work and study with your classmates because this can help you learn the material. You can collaborate on homework problems and figure them out jointly but each person must turn in their own solution and it must be in their own words. Having the same idea on how to solve a problem is not cheating but implementing it, line by line, in exactly the same way is not allowed.

Optional homework policy

As a strictly optional alternative, you may be excused from turning in all other homework. If you choose this option, your grade will be out of 350 points (i.e., 3 exams only). At no point in the quarter can you change your mind and go from turning in homework to not turning it in or vice versa. If you choose the “No HW” option, you will still have access to solutions, etc. at the same time as everyone else. While I do not encourage the “No HW” option, I understand that some people work better without the weekly deadlines or prefer to learn the material on their own time.

If you want to turn in weekly homework that will count for 12.5% of your grade, then you do not need to do anything with this page.

If you want the “No HW” option, print your name neatly in the first blank, sign at the bottom of this page, tear off the bottom half of the page, and return to me by Tuesday, April 3 at 4:40 p.m.

tear along this line

I _____ choose the “No HW” option for the Spring 2007 quarter in STA 309 with Professor Wirkus. I understand that by choosing this option, I cannot and will not turn in homework at any point during the quarter, and that my grade will be based out of 350 points (2 midterms and 1 final). I acknowledge the potential dangers of not keeping to a weekly schedule of turning in homework but choose this option regardless. I also understand that the first computer assignment is still mandatory, even when choosing this option.

(please sign here)