

**Class Meetings:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 3:35–4:25 PM, in ECCR 108

**Instructor:** Eric Stade (email: [stade@colorado.edu](mailto:stade@colorado.edu))

**Office Hours:** Mondays 11 AM–12 PM, Tuesdays 10–11 AM, in MATH 305

**Prerequisites:** Either MATH 2300 or APPM 1360, in addition to either MATH 2001 or MATH 2002, all with a minimum grade of C-

**Course Canvas page:** <https://canvas.colorado.edu/courses/96752>

**Required Text:** *Understanding Probability*, third edition, by Henk Tijms

This text is accessible online through our Canvas page. (Click on the “Course Materials” link on the left side of our Canvas home page.) If you prefer a hard copy, these are available at the CU Bookstore, on Amazon, etc.

**Additional readings:** Various supplemental notes will be provided on our Canvas page, as they are needed.

In addition, **lecture notes** will be posted online, AFTER the class in which they are delivered. I make no guarantees as to how soon after class they will appear. (I will certainly try to have all notes relevant to any given in-class exam posted early enough that you can review them for that exam.)

**You should still come to class!** Think of the posted lecture notes as a way of reviewing what you have learned in class. But you will miss **a lot** (not only in terms of points—see “Requirements and grades” below) if you skip class and rely only on the text and the posted lecture notes to learn the material. Learning is an *active* experience, and while reading is important (and any assigned reading is *critical* to the course), all by itself it’s a somewhat passive way of learning.

**Mathematics Academic Resource Center, also known as “The MARC.”** You may seek assistance with your math questions at the Mathematics Academic Resource Center, in Math 175. Hours and other details may be found at <https://math.colorado.edu/marc/>.

**About the course.** Probability and statistics are fundamentally important mathematical disciplines: they provide us with tools for quantifying events with uncertain outcomes, so that we can make rational decisions in a fickle world.

We will skip around a bit in Part One (Chapters 1-6) of the text, and then spend most of the rest of the time on Part Two (Chapters 7-16). We will also cover the occasional additional topic chosen by the instructor (that’s me).

**Requirements and grades.** Your grade in this course will be computed on the basis of:

**(a) Exams (55% of your final grade).**

You will have two **in-class** midterm exams, on **Wednesday, October 4** and **Wednesday, November 15**. Of your two midterm scores, the lowest score will be dropped. The remaining exam score will count for 35% of your course grade.

You will also have an **in-class** final exam on **Wednesday, December 20, 1:30-4 PM**. This final exam will account for another 20% of your course grade.

**(b) Homework (25% of your final grade).** Written assignments will be due **by the start of class on Wednesdays**, with the following exceptions: no homework will be due on the first

Wednesday of classes, or on either of the “midterm” Wednesdays—October 4 and November 15.

All assignments will be posted on our Canvas page. Late homeworks will not be accepted.

Your lowest **three** homework scores will be dropped.

**(c) Group activities (10% of your final grade).** From time to time, there will be in-class activities that you will complete with your classmates, in small groups. Generally, the dates for these activities will **not** be announced in advance, so please come to class, or risk missing them!

These activities cannot be made up. However, you may miss up to **two** of these activities without penalty.

**(d) Canvas discussions (7% of your final grade).** On our Canvas page, there is a “Topics in Prob/Stats” discussion that you will be asked to participate in weekly. If you make meaningful, thoughtful posts to this discussion at least once a week, you will get the full seven points for the semester.

There will be additional discussion threads set up for posting, or responding to, questions about class, homework, etc.

Postings to “Topics in Prob/Stats” for a given week are due by 10 PM on the Sunday at the end of that week.

**(e) Participation and attendance (3% of your final grade).** Please come to class, on time, and be attentive and engaged. I will take attendance on occasional, random days, and will take note of repeated absence or lateness. If you’re frequently absent or late, your grade in this category will suffer. Points will also be deducted if you are physically, but not mentally, present, e.g. spending the class period on social media and whatnot.

You will get the full three points for regular attendance and participation over the course of the semester.

Please see the “**ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION**” header on our Canvas home page, for:

- **Guidelines for written assignments.** Please **read** and **follow** these guidelines for written work, such as homework assignments, exams, and discussion posts. You will lose points on written work if you stray too far from these guidelines!!
- **Other general information, concerning:** classroom behavior; requirements for infectious diseases; accommodation for disabilities, temporary medical conditions, and medical isolation; preferred student names and pronouns; the CU Honor Code; sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation; religious holidays; and mental health and wellness.