

Math1128 Short Term Actuarial Math 1 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Sheng Xiong

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Office Hours: TTH 9: 00am-10: 00am or by appointment

Class Meetings: TBD

Web: The Canvas page for this course will contain assignments, handouts, due dates, and announcements.

CALCULATORS: In order to simulate an actuarial exam conditions, an SOA approved exam calculator is recommended: the battery or solar-powered Texas Instruments BA-35 model calculator, the BA II Plus*, the BA II Plus Professional*, the TI-30Xa or TI-30X II* (IIS solar or IIB battery), or TI-30X MultiView (XS Solar or XB Battery). For additional information please see:

<http://www.soa.org/education/exam-req/exam-day-info/edu-calculators.aspx>

Course Materials/Texts:

1. *ASM Study Manual for STAM - Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics*, By: Abraham Weishaus. *Edition: 2nd Edition, 3rd Printing*

2. *Loss Models: From Data to Decisions*, (Fifth Edition), 2019, by Klugman, S.A., Panjer, H.H. and Willmot, G.E., Wiley, ISBN: 978-1-119-52378-9

Course Objectives: This course gives an introduction to useful frequency and severity models. Discussion of the steps involved in the modeling process and how to carry out these steps in solving business problems. At the end of the course the students should be able to: 1) analyze data from an application in a business context; 2) determine a suitable model including parameter values; and 3) provide measures of confidence for decisions based upon the model. This class also provides an introduction to a variety of tools for the calibration and evaluation of the models. This class covers parts of CAS Exam 4/SOA Exam STAM.

Prerequisite: Math 1119

Assessments:

1. Homework 30%: Homework will be assigned weekly.

2. Three exams 70%: Two midterms (20% each) and one Final exam (30%) (TBD)

Final grade will be based on homework and exams.

Grading Scale: A+ (97-100%), A (93-96%), A- (90-92%), B+ (87-89%), B (83-86%), B- (80-82%), C+ (77-79%), C (73-76%), C- (70-72%), D+ (67-69%), D (63-66%), D- (60-62%), F(<60%)

For the official Exam STAM syllabus and registration information, visit the SOA website at

<https://www.soa.org/globalassets/assets/files/edu/2021/2021-02-exam-stam-syllabi.pdf>

Makeup policy: Makeup examinations will be granted only for excused absences (prior approval of the instructor for required travel, or verifiable medical doctor's excuse). **Makeups for exams must be scheduled within twenty four hours of the originally scheduled exam time.** Failure to contact the instructor (Dr. Xiong) within this twenty four hour period with a valid medical/travel excuse will result in a zero for that examination.

Disability Resource Services

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890, as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Academic Integrity Policy

All students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty. Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity: <https://www.as.pitt.edu/faculty/policies-and-procedures/academic-integrity-code> will be required to participate in the procedural process as initiated by the instructor, as outline in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed. You should note that only those resources explicitly authorized by the instructor can be used to complete assignments. Assessments are designed so that you learn by doing them. Copying homework or exam answers from outside sources and other such violations of the academic integrity code will not solidify your learning. Passing a course without adequate mastery of the material can set you up for limited success in subsequent courses. Also it is a violation of the academic integrity code to share any question from an assignment or an exam in any form. The instructor may choose to post a solution set after the assessment, but remember that assessments written by the instructor are copyrighted materials and you are not permitted to distribute them in any way. If you inadvertently have access to a shared exam or homework question, then you are obligated to inform the instructor. Remember, academic integrity is not about what you can get away with. It is about personal accountability, honor, ethics, respect, trust, and fairness.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT:

The University of Pittsburgh does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation based on disability, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, marital status, familial status, sex, age, sexual orientation, veteran status or gender identity or other factors as stated in the University's Title IX policy. The University is committed to taking prompt action to end a hostile environment that interferes with the University's mission. For more information about policies, procedures, and practices, see:

<https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/civil-rights-title-ix-compliance/policies-procedures-and-practices>

I ask that everyone in the class strive to help ensure that other members of this class can learn in a supportive and respectful environment. If there are instances of the aforementioned issues, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, by calling 412-648-7860, or e-mailing titleixcoordinator@pitt.edu. Reports can also be filed online: <https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/make-report/report-form>. You may also choose to report this to a faculty/staff member; they are required to communicate this to the University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. If you wish to maintain complete confidentiality, you may also contact the University Counseling Center (412-648-7930).

E-mail Communication Policy

*Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. The University for official communication may use this e-mail address with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on **Edit Forwarding Addresses**, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html.)*

STATEMENT ON CLASSROOM RECORDING: *To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the students' own private use.*