

## Useful Information

### Contact

- Lecturer: Jim Propp (propp@math.wisc.edu)  
Office: 813 Van Vleck  
Phone: 263-5148
- Class meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30–10:45 a.m., room B235 Van Vleck
- Consulting hours:
  - Tuesdays 11–12 in 813 Van Vleck
  - Wednesdays 4–5 at the State Street Steep and Brew
  - Thursdays 11–12 in 813 Van Vleck
  - and by appointment.
- Grader: To Be Announced.

### Text

*A First Course in Probability* (fifth edition) by Sheldon Ross; we will read chapters 1 through 8 and parts of chapters 9 and 10.

### Requirements

- *Two in-class hour-exams* (25% each): February 22 and April 5. These will be open book, open-notebook exams, with use of calculator allowed.
- *One comprehensive two-hour final exam* (35%): May 16, 10:05 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. (exam code 22). This will be an open book, open-notebook exam, with use of calculator allowed.

(more)

- *Homework* (25%):

- (mostly) weekly
- lowest grade is omitted
- working in groups is encouraged, but solutions *must* be written up independently, and collaborators should be credited
- course-bibles should not be used in any way
- pages should be stapled together
- email submissions permitted (but not as Word documents)

The lowest 10% of your grades will be discounted.

Homework sets and tests will be graded not just on the basis of correctness but also on the basis of clarity. I also intend to offer bonus points for “metacognition” (knowing what you know and what you don’t know): if you can accurately assess ahead of time how well you’ve done on a homework assignment or quiz, you can get up to 5 bonus points.

In order to make the best use of class-time, students are urged to do the reading ahead of time. They are also urged to attend consulting hours (or to schedule appointments at other times if they are unable to attend during regular consulting hours).

Suggestions on how the class can be improved are welcome (by email, phone, or in person) at any time during the term, outside of lectures.