Math 318/201

Probability with Physical Applications

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 14:00-15:00 Buchanan A102 Instructor: Dr. Daniel Valesin, Math Annex 1103, 604-822-4605, valesin@math.ubc.ca.

Textbook: S.M. Ross, "Introduction to Probability Models," 10th edition, Academic Press, (2010).

Course material:

WEEK 1

- Introduction to Probability Theory and its history
- Counting problems
- Probability spaces

WEEK 2

- Independence and conditional probability
- Discrete random variables: Bernoulli, Binomial, Geometric, Poisson

WEEK 3

- Continuous random variables: Uniform, Exponential, Normal
- Expectation, moments, variance of a random variable

WEEK 4

- Joint distribution of random variables
- Covariance and independence

WEEK 5

- Generating functions and characteristic functions
- Sums of independent random variables

WEEK 6

- Convergence of random variables
- Law of large numbers and central limit theorem

WEEK 7 and 8

- Confidence intervals
- Random walks

WEEK 9

- Conditional expectation
- Introduction to Markov Chains

WEEKS 10-13

 Markov Chains: irreducibility, recurrence and transience, reversibility, asymptotic behavior, applications, Markov Chain Monte Carlo Final exam: There will be a final examination during the April examination period.

Evaluation: The final mark will be calculated as follows:
9 homework assignments: 10%
2 midterm exams: 40%
Final exam: 50%