

ACTUARIAL APPLICATIONS — “The Tutorial” — MAT 4930; MAT 5933

ALL Actuarial Science students registered for any actuarial tutorial section must attend either Tuesday, August 25th, or Thursday, August 27th, 5:15–6:15 pm, in 101 LOV.

Fall 2009

Each academic year term we are happy to offer, with credit for the Actuarial Applications tutorial MAT 4930, a professional seminar to help you prep for an exam. In Fall 2009 we offer a seminar for Exam P/1. See Requirements section below.

PROGRAM STAFF Mentors/Tutors: Ms. Yuanying (Michelle) Guan (yguan@math.fsu.edu), Ms. Danielle Mastromatteo (dmm07f@fsu.edu), and Mr. Nick Rowe (nrr07c@fsu.edu) serve as mentors in the tutorial room. Ms. Guan is the Graduate Teaching Assistant assigned to the program, and keeps student attendance and turn-in records. The tutorial instructor of record is Dr. Steve Paris (paris@math.fsu.edu). Mrs. Esther Diaguila (advisor@math.fsu.edu), 222 LOV, is the departmental academic advisor. Dr. Paris’s office is 202 LOV, and his office hours for Fall 2009 are 3:30-4:30 T, 1:20-2:20 W, 11:15-12:15 R, and by appointment.

ELIGIBILITY Since 4 repetitions of MAT 4930 Tutorial are required for the B.S. in Actuarial Science, students should enroll in the first semester in which they are eligible: You should register for MAT 4930 in the term in which you take either MAP 4170, or STA 4321 (or both).

OBJECTIVES Each student will make a plan of study and activities to learn more about the actuarial profession and to prepare for early examinations. Also, through participation in the actuarial professional development activities of FSSAS, the student will learn about the profession, the credentialing procedure, the entry portals, resume preparation, and self-evaluation of capabilities.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS A supplement to this syllabus, denoted *actapp092f*, distributed by e-mail by 8/28, will give corrections to this syllabus, *actapp081f*, and hours for the tutorial room, MCH 112, beginning 8/31. Ms. Guan will keep a spreadsheet showing student performance. You will receive an email if you are not performing satisfactorily at the midpoint of the semester. You may also check your status late in the term by e-mailing Ms. Guan directly. Mrs. Diaguila maintains the departmental actuarial alias; please make sure you are on this alias.

REQUIRED MATERIALS Do not violate copyright laws! Initially you can get sample practice problems from exams on the web via beanactuary.com. However, each student should have their own copies of a good UPDATED (to reflect current tests) study manual for the appropriate examination — web materials are not sufficient for the entire term. If you want I will advise you on what to buy. You should order a study manual immediately. Most are published by or available through one of the main actuarial literature providers e.g., see actuarialbookstore.com or actexamdriver.com.

MAT 4930 TUTORIAL ATTENDANCE AND REQUIREMENTS *Be careful to note that we will not count more than 2 attendances or 4 problems in any single week.* There are **three** grading standards for 4930, and you must complete each for the ``S'' grade:

(1) **ATTENDANCE:**

T 5–6:15 or R 5:15–6:15 **FIRST WEEK ONLY.** One of these first-week sessions is required or else the department is required to drop you.

During the term, each student must attend and sign in and out for at least 14 scheduled tutorial periods of 60–75 minutes for the term. If you miss a week's attendance, you may make it up, but not more than 2 periods toward the 14 can be counted in any given week. All regular sessions are at least 75 minutes long to allow sign-in and sign-out and a good working period. You must work the entire period for credit. *You can request other hours you would like, and the permanent tutorial times will be announced 8/28 or later.* The current hours are below. (N – Nick, D – Danielle, M – Michelle)

M: 12:30 – 3:00 (N,D) 5:30 – 6:45 (N)

T: 9:30 – 10:45 (N) 2:00 – 4:30 (N)

W: 9:30 – 12:00 (D)

R: 10:45 – 12:00 (D) 2:00 – 3:15 (M) 3:45 – 5:00 (N)

F: 9:30 – 12:00 (D)

- (2) **PROBLEMS:** Each student will hand in to a Tutor each week at least two carefully worked out written problems of their choice (not *identical* to practice materials for the appropriate exam). The minimum total problems for an ``S'' grade for the term = 28 problems by the last session on Friday, December 4th. Not more than 4 problems will be accepted for credit during any one week.
- (3) **FSSAS:** Also, students attend and sign attendance sheet at all Thursday 5:00–6:30 pm presentations announced by Mrs. Diaguila for FSSAS. FSSAS meetings are announced by e-mail and will also be posted at <http://www.math.fsu.edu/~diaguila/FSSAS.html>.

If an FSSAS presentation must be missed, then a make-up lecture attendance must be completed. The best opportunity are ``Proseminars'' (MAT 5939, W 3:45, 101 LOV) or departmental ``Colloquia'' (F 3:30, 101 LOV).

For credit making up a missed FSSAS e-mail Ms. Guan within 10 days of the time you attend the extra make-up lecture telling her (1) why you missed; (2) what you attended (day, time, speaker, topic); (3) a good long paragraph describing the lecture; no credit for just copying the announced abstract for the talk!

EXAM P/1 SEMINAR ATTENDANCE AND REQUIREMENTS This syllabus section applies only to those who will be attending the Exam P/1 seminar. The seminar will consist of 2-hour sessions. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 1st, from 5:15 to 7:15 in 101 LOV, and we may have to meet on a Thursday or two in order to finish on Tuesday, November 3rd. On November 3rd there will be a two hour mock exam. If you score 60% or higher on the mock exam, then you will be exempt from items 1 and 2 of the requirements above. If you score at least 30% but less than 60% on the mock exam, then you will be required to makeup 5 of the 14 scheduled tutorial periods, turning in 2 problems during each makeup period. If you score less than 30% on the mock exam, then you will be required to makeup 10 of the 14 scheduled tutorial periods, turning in 2 problems during each makeup period. **You are still responsible for completing item 3 of the requirements above.** Attendance will be taken at each seminar session and will be recorded in completed hours attended per session, called credit hours. If you show up late or leave early during a session, you will receive at most 1 credit hour of that particular session. For each credit hour of the seminar missed, you must make up that hour by completing a week's work of the item 1 and 2 requirements above. For example, if you receive only 1 credit hour for a particular session, then in order to make up that hour you must attend 1 hour of the tutorial and hand in at least 2 worked problems, under the constraints of items 1 and 2 above. Finally, you will not be allowed to make up more than 4 credit hours of the seminar. Once you have made up 4 credit hours of the seminar, if any additional time is missed, then you will automatically become responsible for items 1 and 2 in their entirety; you will not receive any credit for attending the seminar and will be required to complete all 14 attendances at the regular tutorial, and turn in all 28 problems.

GRADING Satisfactory completion of the attendance, problems, and FSSAS requirements (#1 – #3, respectively, on the last page) is necessary for an “S”, with the exception that the Exam P/1 seminar participants may substitute the requirements in the preceding paragraph in place of the attendance and problem requirements. Everyone is responsible for the FSSAS requirements. If you do not complete all parts of the above requirements, then you will make a “U” and will have to repeat this tutorial.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

A copy of the University Academic Honor Code can be found in the current Student Handbook. You are bound by this in all of your academic work. It is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility 1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, 2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the University community, and 3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the University community. Please note that violations of this Academic Honor System will not be tolerated in this class. Specifically, incidents of plagiarism or failure to attribute the source of your material of any type or referring to any unauthorized material during examinations will be rigorously pursued by this instructor. You have successfully completed many mathematics courses and know that on a “test” or “quiz” you may not give or receive any help from a person or written material except as specifically designed acceptable. Out of class you are encouraged to work together on assignments but plagiarizing the work of others or of study materials is academically dishonest.

A.D.A. STATEMENT

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should:

1. register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC)
2. bring a letter to the instructor from SDRC indicating you need academic accommodations.

This should be done within the first week of class. This and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TERM IN THE TUTORIAL? If so, as your first activity for this course, here is some fun: go to the site beanactuary.com. Browse, watch the 10-minute film clip if you haven't before, and enjoy! You can read the online version of Future Actuary, the newsletter. Also, if you haven't previously, go to the bottom option on that screen, "Interactive Actuarial Exams". Try **FIRST** the questions for high school students and **THEN** the ones for college students (trust me!). Enjoy!

ACTUARIAL EXAM REGISTRATION

In order to be competitive in the current job market, you must pass at least one actuarial exam before graduation. It is getting to where you need to pass two exams to be competitive. Students should register for an exam as soon as you have the prerequisites for the exam. Ms. Diaguila has registration information, or you can register online at www.soa.org by following the Exam Information link. Exams P/1 and FM/2 are only offered in this area by computer-based testing (CBT).

The upcoming SOA/CAS Exam Schedule for Exams P/1 and FM/2 is:

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| Exam P/1: | CBT Dates 11/18/09 – 11/30/09; (Registration Deadline: 10/08/09) |
| Exam FM/2: | CBT Dates 12/01/09 – 12/08/09; (Registration Deadline: 10/22/09) |

UPCOMING FSSAS EVENTS

1. New York Life – September 17th; Interviews September 18th
2. NCCI – September 24th; Interviews September 25th
3. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida – October 1st; Interviews October 2nd
4. JP Morgan – October 8th; Interviews October 9th
5. Watson Wyatt – October 15th; Interviews October 16th
6. Mercer – October 29th; Interviews October 30th