Actuarial Models

MAP 4175, 4 semester hours
MAP 5177, 3 semester hours

Time
12:30 – 1:45 TR; 213 HCB
12:20 – 1:10 W; 213 HCB

Instructor Information
Name: Steve Paris
Email: paris@math.fsu.edu
Office: 202A LOV
Office Hours: 3:30 – 4:30 T and 1:15 – 2:15 W, and by appointment
Course Webpage: www.math.fsu.edu/~paris/MAP4175-6/index.html

Class Information and Communications
Ms. Danielle Lewis in room 205-D LOV maintains an email group alias for all actuarial science students. It is your responsibility to make sure you are included on the alias. If you are not currently on the alias, give Ms. Lewis your official “my.fsu.edu” account address and she will add you to it. Class communication will primarily rely on email to this department alias for actuarial students. It is recommended that you log in daily to your “my.fsu.edu” account to check for any new correspondences. WARNING: Some email servers consider forwarded messages from the math department server as spam and will not deliver them.

Prerequisites and Registration
You must have completed MAP 4170 and STA 4321 with a grade of C- or better.

University Attendance Policy
Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

I expect you to attend every class meeting, arrive on time, and remain until class is dismissed. More on this subject is discussed in the Professional Component section below.
Course Materials
Required Text:

Class notes will be provided.


You are required to have at least one of the two types of SOA approved calculators. The two models are TI 30’s and TI BA’s. Some of the TI 30 models have multi-view screens and good statistical software, but to my knowledge none of them has time value of money functions. You are allowed to use multiple calculators on actuarial exams.

Exams and Makeup Policy
Beginning on September 6th there will be weekly 50 point exams each Wednesday, with few exceptions. On Wednesday, December 13th, in 213 HCB from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. there will be a 300-point comprehensive Final Exam. Note that this is the final exam period for TR 12:30 p.m. classes. The last four 50 point exams will count towards your final grade, and the best six of the remaining will count towards your final grade.

Makeup exams will not be given. If you know that you will be absent on a test day, please see me beforehand about the possibility of taking the test at a different time. If you miss a test due to an unexcused absence, then you will receive a 0 for that exam. If you miss a test due to an excused absence, then your final exam score will be substituted for the missed test score. It is your responsibility to present an excuse at the next attended class meeting after an absence. If this is not done, then the absence will be unexcused.

FSA and Professional Component
I expect you to attend activities and participate in projects of the Future Seminole Actuaries (FSA). Information will be announced by email and/or in class at least one week in advance.

I expect you to behave professionally. Unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. Some common examples of unprofessional behavior are skipping class, arriving to class late or leaving early without giving prior notification or promptly giving subsequent explanation, and the most common, sending email without checking for spelling, grammar, or punctuation mistakes. I expect you to refrain from these and other forms of unprofessional behavior.
Grading
There are 500 possible exam points and 300 final exam points.

The number of points accumulated according to the following scale will determine grades:

A: 716-800  B: 636-715  C: 556-635  D: 476-555  F: 0-475

Course Objectives
One of the course objectives is for each student to develop a mastery of actuarial mathematics content based on the mathematics of life contingencies. Other course objectives are for each student to understand the long-term individual study commitment necessary to achieve a designation within one of the actuarial societies and for each student to increase their knowledge of the actuarial profession.

Actuarial Exam Registration
In order to be competitive in the current job market, you must pass at least one actuarial exam. Students should register for an exam as soon as you have the prerequisites for the exam. You can register online at www.soa.org by following the Exam Registration link. Exams P, FM, MFE, and C are only offered in this area by computer-based testing (CBT). The currently published registration schedule for upcoming 2017 SOA Preliminary Exams for which the registration deadline has not passed is:

Exam P:       CBT Dates 11/04/17 – 11/15/17;  (Registration Deadline: 10/03/17)
Exam FM:      CBT Dates 10/12/17 – 10/23/17;  (Registration Deadline: 09/06/17)
              CBT Dates 12/05/17 – 12/16/17;  (Registration Deadline: 10/31/17)
Exam MFE:     CBT Dates 11/16/17 – 11/22/17;  (Registration Deadline: 10/10/17)

Exam Mentors and Tutorial
Mr. Navid Salehy, a graduate student in Financial Mathematics, is assigned as a teaching assistant in the actuarial and financial mathematics programs. We will have two undergraduate TA’s for the actuarial tutorials to help students prepare for exams. You do not have to be registered for an actuarial exam, or even registered for the tutorial, MAT 4930, to take advantage of the help these tutors can provide. The tutorial room is 216 MCH and the schedule for the tutorial will be posted outside the door to the room.

Academic Honor Policy
The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “. . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy.)
Americans With Disability Act:
Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:
(1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
(2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.
This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu
http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/

Syllabus Change Policy:
Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.