

ACSC 380-10 & Math 480-10**Actuarial Science Seminar****Fall 2009****Instructor** [John J. Currano](#)**Office** Auditorium Building, Room 418**Hours** Wednesdays, 4:00 - 6:00**E-mail** jcurrano@roosevelt.edu (This is the best way to contact me)**Voice Mail** 312-341-2435 (I only check voice mail on Wednesdays)**Web Page** <http://faculty.roosevelt.edu/currano/>**Additional Course Documents** (on the faculty web and [RU Online](#))[Syllabus](#) (this page in pdf)[2005-2008 Midterm Tests & Solutions](#)[Homework Problems](#) (in pdf)[Math 347/447 Lecture Notes & Handouts](#)[Handouts](#)[Tutoring Schedule](#)**Location.** Room 414, Auditorium Building, Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:30.**Texts:** [ACTEX Study Manual for the SOA Exam P and CAS Exam 1, 2009 Edition](#), Broverman
ISBN 13: 978-1-56698-678-6; ISBN 10: 156698561-7
Errata online at http://www.actexamdriver.com/client/client_pages/actex_errata1.cfm*Mathematical Statistics with Applications*, 7th Ed., Wackerly, Mendenhall, Scheaffer
(or an equivalent reference for probability)**Prerequisite:** [ACSC 348](#) or [Math 348](#) or [Math 448](#), Probability and Statistics 2 (it may be taken concurrently). You must be familiar with the material through Chapter 7 of Wackerly *et al.***Course Description and Objectives:** The main objective of this course is to help you prepare for, and pass, the SOA Exam P / CAS Exam 1 on probability. To this end, most of the homework, the midterm exam, and the final exam will consist of problems similar to those on Exam P, and the time allotted for the exams will be comparable (per problem) to that allotted by the societies on Exam P. In order to succeed, you need to be able to analyze a problem, quickly choose an approach to its solution, and discard this approach and choose another when it does not seem to help. The best way to do this is to practice – do the assigned homework and as many additional problems from the study guide, text, and sample exams as you can.**Course Materials.** The course syllabus, assignments, previous years' tests and solutions, and other course materials, as well as some useful web links will be available on the Roosevelt Faculty Web at <http://faculty.roosevelt.edu/currano/a380/> and on the course site on [RU Online](#) (usually by a link to the material on the Faculty Web). Check one of these websites regularly since the course materials posted there reflect all changes, additions and corrections.**Communication.** [RU Online](#) has a threaded **Discussion Board** where you can post comments, ask questions, and reply to the comments and questions of others, as well as facilities for emailing the instructor and your classmates. I usually respond to questions posted on the Discussion Board or sent by email within 48 hours. Email sent via [RU Online](#), which I use to email the class, is sent to the recipient's Roosevelt email address, so please check your Roosevelt email regularly. You can also check your grades on [RU Online](#). Logon and check it out.**Courtesy.** Please turn off all cell phones or set them on vibrate before entering the classroom. Class discussions are encouraged, but please address your remarks to the entire class.

Homework and Class Participation. We shall discuss the the topics under consideration in the context of problem solving. For the first half of the semester (until late October), problems from the study guide will be assigned each week. Once we have covered the eleven sections of the study guide, an assortment of problems similar to those on Exam P will be posted each week. Each person should expect to present to the class the solution to one or two of the problems each week. The class participation grade will be based on these presentations. Working together in groups preparing these problems is encouraged and highly recommended.

When a topic not covered in 347-8 / 447-8 (such as the Lognormal, Weibull, Pareto, and Bivariate Normal distributions, and mixed distributions) is introduced in the study guide, we will discuss the topic briefly in class and some "standard" problems may be assigned.

Assignments will be posted at <http://faculty.roosevelt.edu/Currano/a380/hwk.htm>. Please check this page regularly as it will reflect the most recent updates.

Two **Midterm Exams** will be given, the first on October 14 and the second November 11. They will be closed book exams with questions similar to those on the Course P exam.

The **Final Examination** will be given on December 16 and will be a closed book, three hour exam similar to the Course P exam.

There will be *no make-ups* for the exams, except for excused absences with advance notice.

Academic Integrity. Each student's work on the exams is to be his or her own. Cheating on either the midterm or the final exam will result in a grade of F in the course. The University policies on Academic Integrity are on the web at <http://www.roosevelt.edu/plagiarism/>.

Grading: Regulations covering grades (especially **I** and **W**) are on pages 239-241 of the [2008 Undergraduate Catalog](#) and on pages 203-204 of the [2008 Graduate Catalog](#). **Incompletes** will not be given, except to a student who has done passing work up to the Final Examination but misses the final exam because of an excused absence with advance notice. The last day to drop a class (with a grade of "**W**") is November 5, 2009. Anyone registered after this date must be graded solely on her/his performance.

Determination of Course Grade	
Class Participation	30%
Midterm Exams	30%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

The [Society of Actuaries](#) has information and study materials on the web, including



[Exams and Requirements](#)

[Exam P Home Page](#)

[Learning Outcomes and Links to Sample Questions and Solutions](#)

[Tables for Exam P](#)

[Copies of some past exams and solutions](#) (including 4 Course 1 Exams)

[Process for Validation by Educational Experience](#)

[Risk and Insurance Study Notes](#)

[Exam P/1 Computer-Based Testing \(CBT\) - General Information](#)

[Sample Computerized Exam P](#)

This page is at <http://faculty.roosevelt.edu/currano/a380/>. Revised: September 16, 2009