This course concerns Probability Theory, and is intended for upper-level undergraduates with a special interest in quantitative methods, statistical techniques and modeling. Lectures and homework assignments will follow the textbook very closely. Announcements, additional materials, or assignments not taken from the book, will be posted on the course webpage http://www.stat.psu.edu/~chiaro/Stat418.

**Instructor:** Francesca Chiaromonte, 411 Thomas Building  
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Office hours: Wed 12.00noon—1.00pm, Thur 10.00—11.00am

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Office hours: Mon, Wed 1.00—2.00pm

**Lectures:** Tue, Thur 1.00—2.15pm, 111 Chambers.

The course will cover a selection of topics from Chapters 1 through 8.

**Prerequisites:** Familiarity with standard techniques from Calculus and Linear Algebra.

**Examinations:** There will be two in class examinations – one mid-term and the final.  
Both will be closed books, but tables, calculators, and a few pages of summary notes, will be allowed. Tentatively, the first mid-term will take place the week before Spring break, with one lecture devoted to review and preparation.  
The final will take place during finals week, according to university scheduling (review and preparation will occupy the last lecture of the term).

**Homework:** Homeworks assignments will be handed out approximately every other Thur,  
and due the following Tue. Assignments will contain several problems, only a subset of which will be graded. Write-up’s should be neat and complete, illustrating your reasoning, and the details of your mathematical derivations.

**Grading:** Homework 30% (dropping the lowest score), mid-term 30%, final 40%

**Conduct:** For reasons of fairness towards your colleagues, your instructor, and the teaching assistant, you are expected to maintain a high standard of academic conduct. All Penn State and Eberly College of Science policies regarding academic integrity apply to this course. For details, see http://www.science.psu.edu/academic/Integrity/index.html  
Late hand-in of homework assignments, and anticipated or delayed exams, will be allowed only in very special and certifiable cases. Discussion and collaboration on homework assignments is encouraged. However, write-up’s should be separate and distinct. Write-up’s that resemble one another to an unreasonable extent will receive a score of 0. So will mid-terms or finals that appear as copies of one another. Also, people found copying from one another or from books during a test might be asked to leave, and assigned a score of 0.