

THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

## Math 478: Statistical Methods in Data Science

### *Fall 2024 Course Syllabus*

**NJIT Academic Integrity Code:** All Students should be aware that the Department of Mathematical Sciences takes the University Code on Academic Integrity at NJIT very seriously and enforces it strictly. This means that there must not be any forms of plagiarism, i.e., copying of homework, class projects, or lab assignments, or any form of cheating in quizzes and exams. Under the University Code on Academic Integrity, students are obligated to report any such activities to the instructor.

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** This course introduces to students concepts in statistical methods used in data science, including data collection, data visualization and data analysis. Emphasis is on model building and statistical concepts related to data analysis methods. The course provides the basic foundational tools on which to pursue statistics, data analysis and data science in greater depth. Topics include sampling and experimental design, understanding the aims of a study, principles of data analysis, linear and logistic regression, resampling methods, and statistical learning methods. Students will use the R statistical software.

**Number of Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** Math 333 with a grade of C or better or Math 341 with a grade of C or better.

**Course-Section and Instructors:**

| Course-Section | Instructor       |
|----------------|------------------|
| Math 478-001   | Professor C. Shi |

**Office Hours for All Math Instructors:** [Fall 2024 Office Hours](#)

**Required Textbook:**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Title     | <i>An Introduction to Statistical Learning: with Applications in R</i> |
| Author    | Gareth James, Daniela Witten, Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani         |
| Edition   | 2nd ed. 2021 edition   |
| Publisher | Springer   |
| ISBN #    | 978-1071614174   |

**University-wide Withdrawal Date:** The last day to withdraw with a W is **Monday, November 11, 2024**. It will be strictly enforced.

**Homework:** There will be six or seven homework assignments. Homework must be submitted through Canvas and needs to be uploaded as **ONE PDF** file. Late homework is not accepted. For the homework problems that require the use of R, please submit the code and figures in addition to the answers.

**Midterm Exam:** There will be an in-class midterm exam during the semester, which will be held on the following day:

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Midterm Exam | Oct 22, 2024 |
|--------------|--------------|

**Final Exam:** There will be a comprehensive in-class exam, which will be held during the Finals week:

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Final Exam Period | Dec 15 - 21, 2024 |
|-------------------|-------------------|

The final exam will test your knowledge of all the course material taught in the entire course. Make sure you read and fully understand the Math Department's Examination Policy. This policy will be strictly enforced.

## POLICIES

**DMS Course Policies:** All DMS students must familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, the **Department of Mathematical Sciences Course Policies**, in addition to official **university-wide policies**. DMS takes these policies very seriously and enforces them strictly.

**Grading Policy:** The final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Homework     | 30% |
| Midterm Exam | 30% |
| Final Exam   | 40% |

Your final letter grade will be based on the following tentative curve.

|   |          |   |         |
|---|----------|---|---------|
| A | 90 - 100 | D | 60 - 70 |
| B | 80 - 90  | F | 0 - 60  |
| C | 70 - 80  |   |         |

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance at all classes will be recorded and is **mandatory**. Please make sure you read and fully understand the **Math Department's Attendance Policy**. This policy will be strictly enforced.

**Cheating in Exams:** Once caught, the exam will be assigned zero points. To prevent cheating, please leave at least one seat empty between you and your neighbors.

**Makeup Exam Policy:** There will be **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** during the semester. In the event an exam is not taken

under rare circumstances where the student has a legitimate reason for missing the exam, the student should contact the Dean of Students office and present written verifiable proof of the reason for missing the exam, e.g., a doctor's note, police report, court notice, etc. clearly stating the date AND time of the mitigating problem. The student must also notify the Math Department Office/Instructor that the exam will be missed.

**Cellular Phones:** All cellular phones and other electronic devices must be switched off during all class times.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Math Tutoring Center:** Located in the Central King Building, Lower Level, Rm. G11 (See: [Fall 2024 Hours](#))

**Further Assistance:** For further questions, students should contact their instructor. All instructors have regular office hours during the week. These office hours are listed on the Math Department's webpage for [Instructor Office Hours and Emails](#).

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** The Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) offers long term and temporary accommodations for undergraduate, graduate and visiting students at NJIT.

If you are in need of accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at [oars@njit.edu](mailto:oars@njit.edu). The office is in Kupfrian Hall, Room 201. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services office authorizing your accommodations will be required.

For further information regarding self-identification, the submission of medical documentation and additional support services provided please visit the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) website at: <https://www.njit.edu/accessibility/>

**Important Dates** (See: [Fall 2024 Academic Calendar, Registrar](#))

| Date                             | Day                 | Event                        |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| September 2, 2024                | Monday              | Labor Day                    |
| September 3, 2024                | Tuesday             | First Day of Classes         |
| September 9, 2024                | Monday              | Last Day to Add/Drop Classes |
| November 11, 2024                | Monday              | Last Day to Withdraw         |
| November 26, 2024                | Tuesday             | Thursday Classes Meet        |
| November 27, 2024                | Wednesday           | Friday Classes Meet          |
| November 28 to December 1, 2024  | Thursday and Sunday | Thanksgiving Recess - Closed |
| December 11, 2024                | Wednesday           | Last Day of Classes          |
| December 12, 2024                | Thursday            | Reading Day 1                |
| December 13, 2024                | Friday              | Reading Day 2                |
| December 15 to December 21, 2024 | Sunday to Saturday  | Final Exam Period            |

## Tentative Course Outlines

| Weeks                   | Chapters   | Topics   |
|-------------------------|------------|--|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>09/02  | Chapter 1  | Introduction to Data Science   |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>09/09  | Chapter 2  | Statistical Learning; kNN  |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>09/16  | Chapter 3  | Linear Regression  |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>09/23  | Chapter 4  | Logistic Regression  |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>09/30  | Chapter 4  | LDA; QDA; Naive Bayes; Generalized Linear Models   |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>10/07  | Chapter 5  | Cross-Validation and Bootstrap   |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>10/14  | Chapter 6  | Linear Model Selection   |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>10/21  | Chapter 6  | Shrinkage Methods and Dimension Reduction Methods<br>Review for Midterm Exam<br><b>Midterm Exam: 10/22</b> |
| <b>Week 9</b><br>10/28  | Chapter 7  | Nonlinear Modeling   |
| <b>Week 10</b><br>11/04 | Chapter 7  | Smoothing Splines, Generalized Additive models   |
| <b>Week 11</b><br>11/11 | Chapter 8  | Tree-Based Methods   |
| <b>Week 12</b><br>11/18 | Chapter 8  | Bagging, Random Forests, Boosting  |
| <b>Week 13</b><br>11/25 | Chapter 9  | Maximal Vector Classifier and Support Vector Classifiers   |
| <b>Week 14</b><br>12/02 | Chapter 9  | Support Vector Machines  |
| <b>Week 15</b><br>12/09 | Chapter 10 | Unsupervised Learning (If time permits)  |
| <b>Week 16</b><br>12/16 |            | <b>Final Exam</b>  |

*Updated by Professor C. Shi - 08/27/2024  
Department of Mathematical Sciences Course Syllabus, Fall 2024*