

THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

MATH 662: Probability Distributions

Fall 2025 Course Syllabus

NJIT Academic Integrity Code: Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: NJIT Academic Integrity Code.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description: Probability, conditional probability, random variables and distributions, independence, expectation, moment generating functions, useful parametric families of distributions, transformation of random variables, order statistics, sampling distributions under normality, the central limit theorem, convergence concepts and illustrative applications.

Number of Credits: 3

Prerequisites: MATH 341 or MATH 333, and departmental approval.

Course-Section and Instructors:

Course-Section	Instructor
Math 662-101	Professor S. Dhar

Office Hours for All Math Instructors: [Fall 2025 Office Hours and Emails](#)

Required Textbook:

Title	<i>Introduction to Mathematical Statistics</i>
Author	Hogg, McKean, and Craig
Edition	8th
Publisher	Pearson

ISBN #	978-0-13-468699-8
--------	-------------------

University-wide Withdrawal Date: The last day to withdraw with a W is **Monday, November 10, 2025**. It will be strictly enforced.

COURSE GOALS

Course Outcomes: By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply the following topics: definitions of probability, conditional probability in practical settings, and creating random variables of interest in a scientific experiment.
2. Apply random variables using distribution and comparing them for creating the best model.
3. Identify which parametric families of distributions to be used when.
4. Derive the distributions using transformation of random variables and natural usage of order statistics.
5. Use of independence in developing mathematical statistics problems and solutions.
6. Create expectations and moments using moment generating functions.
7. Apply sampling distributions under normality, the use of central limit theorem and convergence concepts.

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.

AI: *This course expects students to work without artificial intelligence (AI) assistance in order to better develop their skills in this content area. As such, AI usage is not permitted throughout this course under any circumstance.*

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

Homework/ Quizzes	20%
Class Participation (mainly based on Worksheet scores, and rubric as needed, please see below)	10%
Midterm Exam	35%
Final Exam	35%

Grading Scale: Your final letter grade will be [based on a curve](#) that ensures at least a few A's. Please see Canvas for posted practice problems, HW/Quiz assignments on Math 662 topics. Homework is generally due within a week unless announced otherwise by the instructor. Solutions to the assignments will be posted in the Canvas classroom and discussed (please see the Math 662 Course in Canvas) as needed. [As soon as the class submits the assignments, the instructor's solutions keys are immediately posted on the Canvas classroom therefore late homework is not accepted.](#)

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.

In the new verification of presence process, students will be self-reporting their presence. Instructors will no longer be required to manually take and record attendance in order to verify the presence of each student. The Canvas section for each of your courses will automatically be populated with an "Academic Engagement Assignment" on **August 30th, 2025**. Completion of this assignment will serve as verification of presence for the

given student.

Religious Observance: NJIT is committed to supporting students observing religious holidays. Students must notify their instructors in writing of any conflicts between course requirements and religious observances, ideally by the end of the second week of classes and no later than two weeks before the anticipated absence.

Homework Policy: No late homework will be accepted. Time extensions to the assignment due if sought beforehand may be granted to the entire class at the instructor's discretion.

Discussing homework topics with classmates and the instructor is encouraged. However, all homework is to be written and completed individually (please do not copy off each other's HW/assignments because that is an example of plagiarism. Please refer to the university honor code (<https://www.njit.edu/dos/academic-integrity>) if there are any ambiguities.

Please submit a hardcopy of your HW solution at the beginning of class at 6 pm. A HW/Exam file with grades out 10/100 points and participation score will be recorded by the instructor but will not be posted in Canvas.

Worksheet: The participation score mainly (also based on rubric [please look at the end of this document] as needed) uses a worksheet on the topics covered in class. There is no make-up for missed worksheets. Imputed score is used in case of extenuating circumstances (note there is a no makeup departmental policy followed in the class). Each worksheet is graded out of a maximum score of four points.

Exams: There will be one midterm exam held in class during the semester and one comprehensive final exam. Exams are held on the following day(s):

Midterm Exam	Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 6:00 pm to 8:50 pm
Final Exam	Wednesday, Dec 17, 2025, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

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.

Makeup Exam Policy: There will be **NO MAKE-UP WORKSHEET OR EXAMS** during the semester. In the event an exam is not taken under rare circumstances where the student has an extenuating circumstance 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.

Course Policies: It is required that the student read the textbook for the material already covered in class by the instructor and confirm that the basic solved problems are understood and practice solving diverse textbook problems with both examples and exercises. More explicitly, students must work on the examples and exercises and problems from the textbook on the topics already covered in class, and learn to solve them correctly. The student should compare his or her answers with those given at the end of the textbook or by the instructor. The instructor holds the right to modify in class exams, homework, quizzes dates in the best interest of the class. Official announcements are made using NJIT student emails or emails provided by students to NJIT as official emails. Only basic calculators are allowed. No advanced calculators with graphic, integration, storage, etc., capabilities are allowed in exams.

- Any complaints regarding grading have to be presented immediately after receiving the graded worksheets / quizzes / exams.
- Looking into your neighbor's work during exams is not allowed. Keeping eyes hidden using hats, caps, etc.

during exams is not allowed.

- Instructors will maintain a detailed record of your attendance which is reported to the NJIT administration.
- The use of laptops, cell phones, beepers, or any sort of communication devices (text messaging, internet, notepad, etc.) during regular classes, exams and quizzes are not allowed. Please note that the laptop should remain shut down during lecture time in class.
- No eating allowed during the class and exams periods. You are expected to remain in the classroom for the entire class period. Not allowed to wander in and out of the classroom.

Office hours are face-to-face or through Zoom. Classes are face-to-face.

All other information will be exchanged via Canvas email and other tools.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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 need accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at oars@njit.edu, or visit Kupfrian Hall 201 to discuss your specific needs. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the office authorizing student accommodations is 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 2025 Academic Calendar, Registrar](#))

Date	Day	Event
September 1, 2025	Monday	Labor Day
September 2, 2025	Tuesday	First Day of Classes
September 8, 2025	Monday	Last Day to Add/Drop Classes
November 10, 2025	Monday	Last Day to Withdraw
November 25, 2025	Tuesday	Thursday Classes Meet
November 26, 2025	Wednesday	Friday Classes Meet
November 27 to November 30, 2025	Thursday to Sunday	Thanksgiving Recess - Closed
December 11, 2025	Thursday	Last Day of Classes

December 12, 2025	Friday	Reading Day 1
December 13, 2025	Saturday	Saturday Classes Meet
December 14 to December 20, 2025	Sunday to Saturday	Final Exam Period

Course Outline

Week # / Date	Topic	Reading/Assignment	Due Dates (Posted on Canvas)
1 9/3	The probability set function, conditional probability and independence, random variables	Textbook Chapter 1: Probability & Distributions on the weekly topics, page 1 to page 37. Homework 1 and Worksheet 1.	End of Week 1
2 9/10	Discrete and continuous random variables, probability mass functions (p. m. f.) and density functions (p. d. f.). Cumulative distribution function and its properties	Textbook Chapter 1: Probability & Distributions on the weekly topics, page 37 to page 53. Homework 2 and Worksheet 2.	End of Week 2
3 9/17	Probability & Distributions Transformations, expected value of a random variable, some special expectations.	Textbook Chapter 1: Probability & Distributions on the weekly topics, page 53 to page 78. Homework 3 and Worksheet 3.	End of Week 3
4 9/24	Moment generating functions (m. g. f.), important inequalities. Functions of a single r. v. Multivariate Distributions, Distribution of two random variables.	Textbook Chapter 1: Probability & Distributions on the weekly topics, page 78 to page 99. Homework 4 and Worksheet 4.	End of Week 3
5 10/01	Transformations, conditional distributions and expectations.	Textbook Chapter 2: Multivariate Distributions on the weekly topics, page 100 to page 117. Homework 5 and Worksheet 5.	End of Week 5
6 10/08	Correlation coefficient, independent random variables, extension to several random variables.	Textbook Chapter 2: Multivariate Distributions on the weekly topics, page 117 to page 154. Homework 6 and Worksheet 6.	End of Week 6
7	Midterm Exam	Wednesday, October 15, 2024	

8 10/22	Some Special Distributions, Random vector transformation, Linear Combinations of Random Variables, binomial and related distributions: geometric, negative binomial. Hypergeometric distribution, Poisson distribution.	Textbook Chapter 2: Multivariate Distributions on the weekly topics, page 155 to page 173. Homework 7 and Worksheet 7.	End of Week 8
9 10/29	Exponential, gamma, uniform distribution chi-squared, beta and normal distributions, Contaminated normal.	Textbook Chapter 3: Some Special Distributions on the weekly topics, page 173 to page 197. Homework 8 and Worksheet 8.	End of Week 9
10 11/05	Multivariate Normal distribution.	Textbook Chapter 3: Some Special Distributions on the weekly topics, page 197 to page 210. Homework 9 and Worksheet 9.	End of Week 10
11 11/12	The t and F-distributions, mixture distributions, distribution of sample mean and variance under normality. Sampling and statistics.	Textbook Chapter 3: Some Special Distributions on the weekly topics, page 210 to page 226. Homework 10 and Worksheet 10.	End of Week 11
12 11/19	Order Statistics	Textbook Chapter 4: On the weekly topics, page 253 to page 266. Homework 11 and Worksheet 11.	End of Week 12
13 12/3	Convergence in Probability (Consistency), Convergence in Distribution (Limiting Distribution)	Textbook Chapter 5: On the weekly topics, page 321 to page 336. Homework 12 and Worksheet 12.	End of Week 13
14 12/10	MGF Technique, Central Limit Theorem, Extensions to Multivariate Distributions	Textbook Chapter 5: On the weekly topics, page 336 to page 353. Homework 13 and Worksheet 13.	End of Week 14
15	Final Exam	Math 662: Wed. Dec. 17, 6:00 pm-8:30 pm	

Grade Criteria for Class Participation (out of a maximum of 4)

Once the student names are uniquely identified, from there onwards each student will receive a score of 0 to 4 at the end of the each class according to the following criteria:

0: Student is absent (please give proof of extenuating circumstances). Students have sustained attention on laptop/electronic devices. Not participating in the class at all. She/he is disruptive and says little or nothing in class. Contributions in class reflect inadequate preparation. Ideas offered are seldom substantive, provide few if any insights, and never a constructive direction for the class. Integrative comments are absent. If this person were not a member of the class, valuable class-time would be saved.

1: Students are present and not disruptive. Tries to respond when called on but does not offer much. Students demonstrate very infrequent involvement in class discussion. This person says little or nothing in class. Hence, there is not an adequate basis for evaluation. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would not be changed.

2: Student demonstrates adequate preparation: knows basic facts, but does not show evidence of trying to interpret or analyze them. She/he offers straightforward information (e.g., straight from the textbook), without elaboration or very infrequently (perhaps once a class). Does not offer to contribute to discussion, but contributes to a moderate degree when called on. Students demonstrate sporadic involvement. Contributions in class reflect satisfactory preparation. Ideas offered are sometimes substantive, provide generally useful insights but seldom offer a new direction for the discussion. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would be diminished somewhat.

3: Student demonstrates good preparation: knows covered course material well, has thought through implications of them. She/he offers interpretations and analysis of course material (more than just facts) to class. Students contribute well to discussion in an ongoing way: responds to other students' points, thinks through their own points, questions others in a constructive way, offers and supports suggestions that may be counter to the majority opinion. Students demonstrate consistent ongoing involvement. Contributions in class reflect thorough preparation. Ideas offered by the student are usually substantive; provide good insights, and sometimes direction for the class. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would be diminished.

4: Student demonstrates excellent preparation: has analyzed covered course material exceptionally well, relating it to readings and other material (e.g., readings, course material, etc.). She/he offers analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of covered course material, e.g., puts together pieces of the discussion to develop new approaches that take the class further. Students contribute in a very significant way to ongoing discussion: keeps analysis focused, responds very thoughtfully to other students' comments, contributes to the cooperative argument-building, suggests alternative ways of approaching material and helps class analyze which approaches are appropriate, etc. She/he demonstrates ongoing very active involvement. Contributions in class reflect exceptional preparation. Ideas offered are always substantive, and provide one or more major insights as well as direction for the class. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would be diminished markedly.

The average score out of the maximum of 4 is used to calculate the class participation score.

*Updated by Professor S. Dhar - 2025
Department of Mathematical Sciences Course Syllabus, Fall 2025*