

COURSE DESCRIPTION – ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021

Course title	Probability Theory and Statistics
Course code	76411
Scientific sector	INF/01
Degree	Bachelor in Informatics and Management of Digital Business (L-31)
Semester	1
Year	2
Credits	6
Modular	No
Total lecturing hours	40
Total lab hours	20
Attendance	<p>Attendance is not compulsory, but strongly recommended. The lectures consist of presentations on the black board, interspersed by small exercises, and discussions with the students. The goal of the course is to enable students to solve problems that require reasoning about probabilities and statistics, which is a skill that can only be acquired by training.</p> <p>All the material used in the lectures and labs as well as the assignments will be published on the OLE pages of the course. Students should note that slides and hand-written lecture notes are supporting material, but their study is not sufficient to reach the goal of the course.</p> <p>Experience shows that some students are able to acquire the intended skills without attending all lectures or all labs, but attendance and success in studies are strongly correlated.</p> <p>Students who are unable to follow all lectures and labs are encouraged to attend at least some of them. They are also encouraged to work out all the exercises given during the lectures and the labs and to submit the coursework, for which they will receive feedback and marks.</p>
Prerequisites	<p>The course builds upon the concepts of elementary calculus as taught in the course of Analysis. Good knowledge of the following subjects is expected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convergence of sequences and series • Exponential and logarithmic functions • Derivatives and partial derivatives • Integration
Course page	https://ole.unibz.it/
Specific educational objectives	<p>The course belongs to the type "attività formative di base – matematica-fisica".</p> <p>The course offers an overview of the theory of probability in connection to its use in computer science and the use of statistics in analysing and understanding empirical data.</p>

Lecturer	Werner Nutt
Contact	Werner.Nutt@unibz.it
Scientific sector of lecturer	INF/01
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Friday, 14:00-15:30, by previous appointment
Lecturing Assistant (if any)	Pietro Galliani
Contact LA	Pietro.Galliani@unibz.it
Office hours LA	Wednesday, 9:00-10:00, by previous appointment
List of topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrete and continuous probabilities • Independence of random variables and conditional probabilities • Sum of random variables, the central limit theorem and Monte Carlo method • Descriptive statistics and inference • Sampling and parameter estimation • Statistical models and testing
Teaching format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frontal lectures, • Lab groups supported by teaching assistants (TAs), • Coursework assignments that are corrected and commented by the TAs. <p>In the lectures, new concepts and techniques are introduced, both by way of presentation on the blackboard and by small exercises. In the assignments, students refine these in order to apply them to selected problems. In the lab groups, students discuss possible approaches to the tasks of the assignments with the TAs and compare different solutions. In addition, students also solve problems that are independent of the assignments to deepen the understanding of the material presented in the lectures.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>Knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1.2 - Possess solid knowledge of statistics and probability theory that support computer science and in-depth economic subjects. <p>Applying knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D2.1 - Ability to use mathematics and statistical data analysis tools to solve computational problems. <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D5.1 - Learning ability to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.
Assessment	<p>The assessment is based on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework assignments (30%), • a written final exam (70%). <p>To pass the course, the written exam has to be passed.</p> <p>The assignments consist of exercises to apply knowledge acquired in the lectures.</p> <p>The written final exam contains unseen questions about the material covered in the course. The aim of the written exam is to check to</p>

	<p>which degree students have mastered the following learning outcomes: 1) Knowledge and understanding, 2) applying knowledge and understanding, 3) making judgments.</p> <p>Students who do not submit all assignments will be assessed on the written exam and the submitted parts of the coursework. For students who submit all assignments, the final mark will be a weighted average of the exam mark (70%) and the assignment mark (30%). If students do not submit all assignments, the percentage for assignments and mock exam will be lower. Also, assignments for which the mark is lower than the mark of the written exam will not be considered.</p>
Assessment language	English
Assessment Typology	Monocratic
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	Correctness and clarity of the answers.
Required readings	<p>Sheldon. M. Ross. Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Engineers and Scientists. Elsevier/Academic Press, Amsterdam, Boston, 2004. OCLC: 123752914.</p> <p>Subject Librarian: David Gebhardi, David.Gebhardi@unibz.it</p>
Supplementary readings	Joseph K. Blitzstein, Jessica Hwang. Introduction to Probability. Chapman and Hall/CRC, 2nd edition, 2019.
Software used	R as a recommended software, but not required for the exam.