

# Math 450 Syllabus, Fall 2016

## Course Description

MATH 450 – Life Contingency Models I.

The topics covered in this class include Markov chains, Poisson processes, survival models, life tables, life insurance, life annuities. The material will focus on the actuarial mathematics requirements for the Exam MLC. This is only half of the syllabus of Exam MLC, with the rest of the syllabus covered in MATH 452.

The main objective of the course is to prepare students for the Exam MLC. Though multiple-choice, Exam MLC is intense and is difficult to pass. So is this course. The emphasis is put on problem-solving.

This course is a 4-credit course, which means that students are expected to do at least 12.5 hours of course-related work or activity *each week* during the semester. This includes scheduled class lecture/discussion meeting times as well as time spent completing assigned readings, studying for tests and examinations, participating in lab sessions, preparing written assignments, and other course-related tasks.

## Schedule

MWF 9:40–10:40 in SW-115, and T 1:15–2:40 in SW-325.

## Prerequisites

MATH 330, MATH 346 and MATH 447.

## Required Textbook

“Arcones Study Manual for SOA Exam MLC”, by Miguel A. Arcones.

The textbook is available for purchase either at the University Bookstore (<http://binghamton.bncollege.com>) or via ACTEX Publications (visit <http://www.actexamdriver.com>).

## Instructor

Vladislav Kargin

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Office: WH-136.

Office hours: MW 11am–12pm, F 3:30pm–4:30pm in WH-136, or by appointment (made via e-mail). I will send announcements using [Piazza Forum](#), so enrollment to Piazza is required. If you have homework or exam related questions post them on Piazza. Helping other students is encouraged. You can also e-mail or text me.

## Evaluation

Your final grade in the course will be based on your performance on weekly quizzes, three midterms, and a final exam. The contribution of each to the final grade will be as follows:

Quizzes: 20% (your worst two quizzes will be dropped)

Midterms: 45% or 15% each

Final Exam: 35%

Homework will be assigned regularly, but will not be collected and will not be graded.

The midterms and the final exam will be closed book. No cheat sheets will be allowed either. Each midterm will be comprehensive, with focus on the material taught since the previous midterm. The midterm schedule is to be determined. The preliminary schedule is as follows

Midterm 1: Tuesday, September 27, 2015

Midterm 2: Tuesday, October 25, 2015

Midterm 3: Tuesday, November 22, 2015

The final exam time and place are to be determined by the University. It will be cumulative.

## Calculator

This course (as well as the actual Exam MLC) requires a calculator to deal with problems that cannot be solved by hand. Only the following Texas Instrument (TI) calculator models may be used on midterms and final exams:

- TI BA-35
- TI-30Xa
- TI BA II Plus
- TI BA II Plus Professional Edition
- TI-30XIIS / TI-30XIIB
- TI-30XS MultiView / TI-30XB MultiView

## Disability-related Equal Access Accommodations

Students wishing to request academic accommodations to insure their equitable access and participation in this course should notify the instructor by the second week of class. Authorizations from Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) are generally required. We encourage you to contact SSD at (607) 777-2686 to schedule an appointment with the Director or Learning Disabilities Specialist. Their website ([www.binghamton.edu/ssd](http://www.binghamton.edu/ssd)) includes information regarding their Disability Documentation Guidelines. The office is located in UU-119.

## Academic Dishonesty

Students found cheating will be reported to the Provost Office as required by the academic procedure outlined in the University Bulletin.