



**STA237H1F LEC0101/LEC5101/LEC0201/LEC0301/LEC5201**  
**Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis I**  
**Fall 2024**

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to probability using simulation and mathematical frameworks, with emphasis on the probability needed for more advanced study in statistical practice. Topics covered include probability spaces, random variables, discrete and continuous probability distributions, probability mass, density, and distribution functions, expectation and variance, independence, conditional probability, the law of large numbers, the central limit theorem, sampling distributions. Computer simulation will be taught and used extensively for calculations and to guide the theoretical development.

**Prerequisite:** (MAT135H1, MAT136H1)/ MAT137Y1/ MAT157Y1/(MATA30H3, MATA36H3)/(MATA31H3, MATA37H3)/(MAT135H5, MAT136H5)/ MAT137Y5/ MAT157Y5

**Corequisite:** (CSC108H1/equivalent programming experience)/ CSC110Y1/ CSC148H1

**Exclusion:** STA247H1, STA255H1, STA257H1, ECO227Y1, STAB52H3, STA256H5, ECO227Y5

**CLASS MEETING TIMES**

<b>Lectures (start Sept 11-12, 2023)</b>	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Tutorials (start Sept 18, 2024)</b>
<b>LEC0101</b> M 1-3pm W 2-3pm	Dr. Bethany White	TUT0101- TUT0104 W 1-2pm
<b>LEC5101</b> M 5-7pm W 5-6pm	Dr. Ismaila Ba	TUT5101-TUT5104 W 6-7pm
<b>LEC0201</b> T 9-11am R 10-11am	Dr. Gracia Dong	TUT0201- TUT0204 R 9-10am
<b>LEC0301</b> T 1-3pm R 1-2pm	Dr. Gracia Dong	TUT0301-TUT0304 R 2-3pm
<b>LEC5201</b> T 5-7pm R 6-7pm	Dr. Gong (Archer) Zhang	TUT5201-TUT5204 R 5-6pm

NOTES:

- Students must register for **\*both\* a specific LEC section AND an associated TUT section** on ACORN by September 16, 2024 (i.e., the last date to enrol in F and Y courses for Fall 2024).
- Your LEC and TUT room information will be available on ACORN. No unofficial switching of LEC or TUT sections is permitted. If you wish to switch, you must do so on ACORN by September 16, 2024 (i.e., the last date to enrol in F and Y courses for Fall 2024).
- STA237H1F lectures will start September 4 or 5, depending on your LEC section. This means there are **\*no\*** lectures for sections LEC0201, LEC0301, nor LEC5201 on September 3, 2024. Tutorials will commence the week of September 16, 2024.
- STA237H1F is an **\*in-person\*** course, so all class meetings are scheduled to take place on campus as per the schedule above. Lectures will **\*not\*** be recorded. During the term, we may need to move the occasional lecture and/or tutorial online on Zoom (e.g., due to illness). If so, this will be communicated on Quercus Announcements with as much advance notice as possible.



## COURSE CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

### Course Quercus Site: <https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/354355>

All lecture sections share a single Quercus site named “*STA237H1 F (ALL SECTIONS) 20249: Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis I*”. It may also look like the course code of the Quercus site is “*STA237H1 F LEC0101*”. This may not reflect the LEC section in which you are officially enrolled; your LEC section is shown on ACORN. Important announcements and information about the course and assessments will be shared on Quercus. Please familiarize yourself with the shared STA237H1 Quercus site and visit often for updates. Check your mail.utoronto.ca email regularly, and make sure your [Quercus notifications](#) are set up based on your preferences so you will not miss important announcements.

Outline lecture slides (in .pdf format) will be posted on Quercus at least 12 hours before each lecture. Alternative file formats will not be available. Note that complete slides used in class will not be distributed.

### Course Support:

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#### Have a question about the course material?

**1. Visit STA237H1F instructor and/or TA office hours**

See Quercus for schedules and locations.

OR

**2. Monitor and post on STA237H1F Quercus Discussions**

Before posting, review the syllabus and previous postings to confirm a related question has not already been posted/addressed. If it has not been addressed elsewhere, post your question by clicking on the “+Discussion” button, and be sure to use an informative “**Topic Title**” to make the discussion threads easier to follow for everyone. Note that questions about active assessments, or those that are more personal in nature should \*not\* be posted/answered on Quercus Discussions.

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#### Have a more personal or sensitive course-related question/concern?

**1. Send an email to the STA237H1F instructors at [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca)**

Please use your mail.utoronto.ca email address. Emails sent from addresses other than mail.utoronto.ca address will not be answered. Be sure to include your LEC and TUT sections (i.e., the ones showing on ACORN) in the subject line of your message.

OR

**2. Visit STA237H1F instructor office hours**

See table below for schedule of weekly instructor office hours and Quercus for locations. If there are other students present, be sure to let the instructor know that you wish to speak with them privately.

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#### *Quercus Discussions*

Please note that all STA237H1F students (all sections), instructors and TAs have access to our Quercus site. Questions about the course material should be posted here. Inquiries that are more personal or sensitive in nature should \*not\* be posted on Quercus Discussions; instead, you should contact STA237H1 instructor(s) in their office hours or by sending an email to [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca).

Quercus Discussions is an important part of our learning environment and a place where we can connect with others in our STA237H1 learning community, seek help, and support others in this course. So, it is essential that everyone be **respectful** and **polite** with others (i.e., students, TAs, and instructors) in our STA237H1 learning community (this goes for all other online and in-person activities as well). When posting/responding on Quercus Discussions, please only type what you would be comfortable saying to someone in-person. Derogatory, discriminatory, or otherwise inappropriate language or topics will be removed at the instructors’ discretion and followed up on as appropriate.

STA237H1F course instructors and TAs will be monitoring Quercus Discussions regularly. You are encouraged to follow and contribute to the discussion as well. Someone else may post a question that is helpful to your learning. If you know the answer to someone’s question and can help, please respond. Explaining a concept or ways to tackle a problem is a great way to connect with others, support the learning community, and strengthen your own learning in the course.



**Office hours:**

The STA237H1F instructors and TAs will hold regular weekly office hours in-person and/or online during the term and will offer additional office hours before exams. Please see below for a schedule of the regular STA237H1F instructor office hours. Locations and formats of instructor office hours and details on TA office hours are available on Quercus. Reading week may affect office hours. Please see Quercus for updates.

Instructor*	Weekly Office Hours*
Dr. Bethany White	W 11am-1pm
Dr. Ismaila Ba	R 3-5 pm
Dr. Gracia Dong	T 11am-12:30pm T 3pm-4pm R 11am-12:30pm
Dr. Gong (Archer) Zhang	W 3-5pm

\* These office hours are \*not\* LEC section specific. You are welcome to attend another instructor’s office hours if they work better for your schedule.

Note that instructors and TAs are \*not\* available outside scheduled office hours and class meetings for extra help or appointments. However, please note that there are other course supports available, depending on the nature of your inquiry (see top of this syllabus section).

**Email to Instructors**

The STA237H1F instructors can be reached at [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca). Questions about the course material should \*not\* be emailed; instead, you should bring your question to an instructor or TA during their office hours or post to Quercus Discussions. Course-related inquiries that are more personal in nature may be sent to the instructors at [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca) from your utoronto.ca email address. If you use email to communicate with the instructors, you must use your mail.utoronto.ca account. This is to protect your privacy: if another account is used, there is no way for the instructors to verify the sender’s identity. We will aim to respond to emails within two business days.

**TEXTBOOK**

- Wagaman, A. S., and Dobrow, R. P. (2021) *Probability: With Applications and R*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Wiley.
- [Optional] Dekking, F.M., Kraaikamp, C., Lopuha, H.P., and Meester, L.E (2005) *A Modern Introduction to Probability and Statistics: Understanding Why and How*, Springer.

Readings and practice problems will be assigned from Wagaman & Dobrow (2021). A digital version of this textbook is available through University of Toronto Libraries - <https://books-scholarsportal-info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/en/read?id=/ebooks/ebooks6/wiley6/2021-06-14/1/9781119692430>

Dekking et al. (2005) is suggested in case you are interested in an additional textbook for different explanations and additional practice problems. A digital version of this text is also available through the library.

**COMPUTING**

In this course, you will interpret R code/output and modify and write R code. Throughout the term, we will assign R activities for you to work through to gain hands-on experience with code used in this course. If you wish to do more in R, we recommend using RStudio (a convenient IDE for R) through the University of Toronto’s JupyterHub at <http://r.datatools.utoronto.ca>. Although, not necessary for this course, R (and RStudio) may be installed on your own machine as well; R is freely available for download at <http://cran.r-project.org> for Windows, MacOS, and Linux operating systems and RStudio is available at <https://posit.co/downloads/>.



## ASSESSMENTS & MARKING SCHEME

Your STA237H1F grade will be determined based on the following marking scheme:

Assessment	Weight
<b>Weekly course reflections (due each Sunday at 11:59pm)</b>	10% (1% each up to a maximum of 10%)
<b>Tutorial quizzes × 3</b>	30% (10% each)
<b>Midterm</b>	20%
<b>Final Exam</b>	40%

*Note: No special rounding rules or individual grade adjustments (e.g., to meet GPA cut-offs, minimum grade requirements for program admission or course prerequisites, etc.) will be applied. No special reweighing of assessments that deviate from the marking scheme or the accommodations described in this syllabus will be applied and no extra work will be accepted. There are no exceptions to these policies.*

### **Weekly course reflections**

There will be **12 weekly course reflections** that you will complete through Quercus Quizzes posted by Thursday each week. Each course reflection will consist of up to 15 questions that will highlight some of the important learning outcomes for that week and give you an opportunity to reflect on your learning and the course. *\*All\** questions must be attempted after the week's lectures, and the Quercus Quiz must be submitted by the deadline to earn 1% for the course reflection. 0% will be recorded if at least one question is left unanswered, is non-substantive, or if the quiz is not submitted by the deadline (note that it is your responsibility to ensure your Quercus Quiz is submitted by the deadline).

There is **no accommodation for missed weekly course reflections** available beyond the flexibility built into the grading scheme (i.e., you must complete and submit 10 of the 12 weekly reflections to earn the full 10%).

### **Tutorial quizzes**

There will be **3x45-minute tutorial quizzes** during the term to give you a chance to work on problems on recent course material and receive feedback on your learning. These quizzes *may be completed collaboratively in groups of up to 3 students* enrolled in your TUT section who are present and actively contributing to the tutorial quiz that day. No communication outside your group, nor use of unauthorized aids (e.g., cell phones, etc.) are permitted. Quizzes must be written in the tutorial section in which you are officially enrolled (i.e., your TUT section showing on ACORN), and you will be asked to show your student ID and sign the sign-in sheet at tutorials. A grade of 0% will be recorded if you are not present at your tutorial the day of the tutorial quiz or if you write a tutorial quiz in another TUT section.

**There are no tutorial quiz make-ups and writing it with another tutorial section is not an option. If you miss a tutorial quiz for a legitimate reason** (e.g., illness, etc.), you must request accommodation by following the steps described in the "Missed Assessment" section below within *\*one week\** of the missed quiz. If no request for accommodation is received through the "Missed STA237H1F Assessment Form" by the deadline for your missed tutorial quiz (or it is incomplete), your tutorial quiz grade will be recorded as 0%.

- If appropriate documentation is received through the "Missed STA237H1F Assessment Form" by the deadline for a missed **tutorial quiz #1**, the weight of your missed tutorial quiz #1 will be shifted to your midterm.
- If appropriate documentation is received through the "Missed STA237H1F Assessment Form" by the deadline for a missed **tutorial quiz #2 or #3**, the weight of your missed tutorial quiz #2 or #3 will be shifted to your final exam.

Note that **at most one** of the three tutorial quizzes may be accommodated this way. 0% will be recorded for any additional missed tutorial quizzes, even if you fill out the "Missed STA237H1F Assessment Form" by the deadline.



### **Midterm**

There will be a **90-minute midterm exam (combination of multiple-choice and written-answer questions)** on **5-6:30pm Friday, Oct 18, 2024**. You must bring your University of Toronto student identification (i.e., your TCard) to the midterm exam. Information on midterm will be posted on Quercus in advance. The purpose of this midterm is to assess *\*your\** knowledge and skills in the first part of the course, and to provide you with feedback on your learning, so you *must complete the midterm independently*. Absolutely no communication with others nor use of unauthorized aids are permitted.

**If you miss the midterm for a legitimate reason** (e.g., conflict with a lecture or tutorial for another course, illness, etc.), you must report your absence as soon as possible and within *\*one week\** by following the steps described in the “Missed Assessment” section below to be eligible to write the make-up midterm which will take place the next week (before reading week). The date, time and location of the make-up will be sent by email to those eligible to write it.

If you miss both the midterm and the make-up midterm for legitimate reasons and request accommodation for both by following the steps in the “Missed Assessment” section below, the weight of your midterm will be shifted to your final exam. If no request for accommodation is received for your missed midterm and/or make-up midterm by the deadline (or it is incomplete), your midterm grade will be recorded as 0%.

### **Final Exam**

There will be a **2-hour cumulative final exam (combination of multiple-choice and written-answer questions)** scheduled by the Faculty of Arts and Science during the December exam period. You must bring your University of Toronto student identification (i.e., your TCard) to the final exam. Information about the exam, along with some sample questions will be posted on Quercus in advance. The purpose of this exam is to assess *\*your\** knowledge and skills in the course so you must complete the final exam independently. Absolutely no communication with others nor use of unauthorized aids are permitted.

Final exam conflicts and petitions for a deferred exam must be brought to the Faculty of Arts and Science, not your instructors.

- Information on exam conflicts is available at <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/exams-assessments/exam-conflicts>.
- Information on how to request a deferred exam due to illness or another valid reason is available at: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/petitions/deferred-exams>.

## **MISSED ASSESSMENTS**

There are no accommodation nor make-ups for missed weekly course reflections beyond the flexibility built into the marking scheme. Please refer to the previous section for more information on the available accommodation for the remaining assessments.

To request accommodation for a missed tutorial quiz or midterm, you must **complete the “Missed STA237H1F Assessment Form” (available on Quercus) within \*one week\* of missing the tutorial quiz or midterm**. In this form, you will need to upload/submit one of the following supporting documents that covers the date(s) of your missed assessments:

- Absence declaration via ACORN (see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academics/student-absences> for important information on eligibility)
- U of T Verification of Illness or Injury Form (VOI) - see <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/index.php>
- College Registrar's letter
- Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services

If you need to miss the midterm or make-up midterm due to a conflict with another course, uploading **1.** a screenshot of your timetable (with your name and student number displayed) **AND 2.** a copy of the syllabus for your other course with a regularly scheduled class meeting that overlaps with the STA237H1F midterm as supporting documentation through the “Missed STA237H1 Assessment Form” by the deadline will be sufficient.

If you are absent for an extended period of time, please contact your [College Registrar's Office](#) as soon as possible for support and advice.



## REGRADE POLICY

There are no regrades for weekly course reflections, and requests for final exam regrades must be made through the Faculty of Arts & Science (please see below). Any requests to have a tutorial quiz or midterm regraded **must be made in writing through completion of the “STA237H1F Regrade Request Form” (available on Quercus) within \*one week\* of the date the marks are posted on Quercus.** To be considered, you must clearly identify the question you have concerns about, provide a detailed justification for your concern and make specific references to your answer, the feedback you received and to the relevant course material. Keep in mind that it is possible for your grade to go down if the regraded mark is lower than your original grade: your grade may increase, stay the same, or it may go down based on the regrade. Late regrade requests or requests submitted in other ways (e.g., by email, in office hours, etc.) will not be considered.

Final exam viewing and regrade request must be made to the Faculty of Arts and Science. Please refer to <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/exams-assessments/exam-viewing> and <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/exams-assessments/exam-recheck-or-reread>.

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another’s differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a consideration that may require accommodations, please contact Accessibility Services: <https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>, 416-978-8060 or [accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca).

## MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Your mental health and well-being are important. If you have an urgent concern about school, health or life in general, the [U of T Telus Health Student Support \(formally known as U of T MySSP\)](#) offers confidential support 24/7 via phone or chat. Please see <https://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/> for information on this and other supports and services available to you at the University of Toronto.



## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. Academic integrity is a fundamental value of learning and scholarship at the university. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that your degree is valued and respected as a true signifier of your individual academic achievement.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2019> outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the processes for addressing academic offences, and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. You are strongly encouraged to visit <https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/> for more information on Academic Integrity at the University of Toronto.

In STA237H1F, potential offences include, but are not limited to, sharing or discussing tutorial quiz, midterm or final exam questions or answers with others or obtaining unauthorized assistance from online sources, generative AI (e.g., ChatGPT – see the “Use of Generative AI in STA237H1F” section below), your peers, or tutoring services or providing unauthorized assistance to others. Details on the supports available in this course are listed in the “Course Contact Information and Office Hours” section of this syllabus and on Quercus, and information on the nature of each assessment is included in the “Assessments and Marking Scheme” section.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact the teaching team at [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca).

## USE OF GENERATIVE AI IN STA237H1F

This course policy has been designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you achieve course learning outcomes.

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools and apps is **strictly prohibited** in all course assessments (i.e., course reflections, tutorial quizzes, midterm and final exam) unless explicitly stated otherwise by the course instructors on assessment instructions. This includes ChatGPT, Copilot, Google Gemini, and other AI writing and coding assistants. Students may not copy or paraphrase from any generative artificial intelligence applications, including ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants, for the purpose of completing assessments in this course. Use of generative AI in this course is considered use of an unauthorized aid, which is a form of cheating.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT

The University considers an instructor's lectures and course materials to be the instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act.

**STA237H1F lectures and tutorials will not be recorded, and no video recording of lectures or tutorials will be permitted under any circumstances.** Students wishing to record audio or take photos in lectures or tutorials or other course material in any way must ask for the instructors' explicit permission in advance and may not do so unless permission is granted. In STA237H1F, this permission must be requested in writing and in advance by sending an email to [sta237@course.utoronto.ca](mailto:sta237@course.utoronto.ca). If permission is granted, this applies only for your own study purposes and does *\*not\** include permission to publish, share or distribute them in any way.

Note too that it is forbidden to publish, share, or distribute any other STA237H1F materials and assessments that are shared on Quercus or Crowdmark. Sharing, posting, selling, or using this material outside of your personal use in this course is not permitted under any circumstances and is considered an infringement of intellectual property rights.



## COURSE SCHEDULE

This is our tentative schedule for course topics. Some adjustments to topics may be made as the course progresses, depending on the rate at which individual topics are covered. Refer to the weekly learning outcomes, recommended textbook readings and problems on Quercus which will be released by Monday of each week.

Week	Dates	Tentative topic schedule (See Quercus for up-to-date weekly topics and resources)	Important reminders & Due Dates
Week 1	Sept 2-Sept 8	Introduction to the course, Random experiments, sample spaces & events	<i>First lectures are Sept 4-5; (NOTE: *no* lecture on Sept 3 for LEC0201, LEC0301 nor LEC5201)</i> No tutorials this week – tutorials start Sept 18 Reflection 1 due 11:59pm Sept 8
Week 2	Sept 9-15	First principles & Conditional probability and independence	No tutorials this week – tutorials start Sept 18 Reflection 2 due 11:59pm Sept 15
Week 3	Sept 16-22	Discrete random variables	Last day to enrol Sept 16 STA237H1F tutorials start this week Reflection 3 due 11:59pm Sept 22
Week 4	Sept 23-Sept 29	Discrete random variables	<b>Tutorial quiz 1 in your tutorial</b> Reflection 4 due 11:59pm Sept 29
Week 5	Sept 30-Oct 6	Discrete random variables	Reflection 5 due 11:59pm Oct 6
Week 6	Oct 7-Oct 13	Continuous random variables	Reflection 6 due 11:59pm Oct 13
Week 7	Oct 14-Oct 20	Continuous random variables	Oct 14 – Holiday (Thanksgiving Day) <i>No lectures on Oct 14-15 (all sections)</i> <b>Midterm 5-6:30pm Friday, Oct 18</b> Reflection 7 due 11:59pm Oct 20
Week 8	Oct 21-Oct 27	Continuous random variables	Reflection 8 due 11:59pm Oct 27 <i>Make-up midterm (date/time TBA)</i>
--	<i>Oct 28-Nov 3</i>		<i>Reading Week</i>
Week 9	Nov 4-Nov 10	Functions of random variables & Joint distributions	<b>Tutorial quiz 2 in your tutorial</b> Reflection 9 due 11:59pm Nov 10
Week 10	Nov 11-Nov 17	Functions of random variables & Joint distributions	Reflection 10 due 11:59pm Nov 17
Week 11	Nov 18-Nov 24	Functions of random variables & Joint distributions; Intro to Law of large numbers & Central Limit Theorem	<b>Tutorial quiz 3 in your tutorial</b> Reflection 11 due 11:59pm Nov 24
Week 12	Nov 25-Dec 1	Law of large numbers & Central Limit Theorem & Wrap up	Reflection 12 due 11:59pm Dec 1 <i>*No* lecture on Dec 2 (the following Monday) for LEC0101 nor LEC5101</i>
Final assessment period	Dec 6-21		Final exam (date/time TBA)