

Syllabus

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Professor of Computational Statistics
Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
Marquette University



**Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
Marquette University**

Introductions

Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences Marquette University

Syllabus
Fall 2025

Course: MATH 4790/MSSC 5790 Bayesian Statistics

Time: TuTh 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm

Location: Cudahy 126 (in-person)

Office Hours: Tu 2:30 pm – 3:30 Help Desk

Th 2:30 pm – 3:30 Office

TuTh 6:15 pm – 6:45 Office

Instructor: Daniel B. Rowe, Ph.D. daniel.rowe@marquette.edu

Office: Cudahy 313

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Course Description From The University Bulletin

MATH 4790/MSSC 5790. Bayesian Statistics 3 cr. hrs.

Bivariate, conditional and marginal distributions. The Bayesian philosophy, quantification of *a priori* information, prior, likelihood and posterior distributions. Bayesian linear models, posterior parameter estimation including maximum *a posteriori* and marginal expectations. Topics may include numerical integration and Markov chain Monte Carlo techniques. Use of a high-level software package

Prereq: COSC 1010, MATH 1451, and MATH 4720 or the equivalents.

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Course Grading

Homework: 30%

Midterm: 30%

Final: 40%

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Topics:

- Events and probabilities of events.
- Conditional probability and Bayes' rule.
- Common discrete and continuous likelihood and prior distributions.
- Maximum likelihood parameter estimation.
- The bivariate normal, bivariate Student-t, and normal-inverse gamma distributions.
Conditional and marginal distributions.
- Subjective assessment of prior information.
- Conjugate and non-conjugate prior distributions.

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Topics:

- Maximum *a posteriori* and marginal mean estimation.
 - Bayesian estimation of the binomial probability of success.
 - Bayesian estimation of the mean of a normal distribution.
 - Bayesian estimation of the least squares regression coefficients.
 - Bayesian LASSO regression
 - Bayesian classification.
 - Markov chain Monte Carlo numerical integration.
 - Additional topics if time permitting.
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- All topics and assignments will have a computational aspect.
Throughout the course you will implement techniques in Matlab.
I will provide a lot of sample code for you to mimic and draw from.

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Questions?