This course is the second of the 5011-5012 sequence in the Masters in Mathematical Finance program. The objective of the current course is to introduce core ideas behind statistics and optimization, especially as motivated by modern financial mathematics.

Class Location and Time
We will meet online Thursdays from 1/21/2021 to 4/29/2021, with the final held on 5/6/2021. Class time will be from 5:30-8:50.

Contact
I will hold office hours after class.
In addition, you may contact me at
bemis(at)math(dot)umn(dot)edu
Include this exact subject line:
MFM 5012
in your subject line, or I will not necessarily see your communique.

Course Website
The course website may be accessed from my homepage:
www.math.umn.edu/~bemis
Here you will find your assignments, lecture slides, and announcements. You will be expected to check this site regularly for updates.
I will likely also use Canvas.
Texts

The course text is my own set of notes as a prepublication draft. Other helpful texts include:


Assignments

Ten homeworks will be assigned. These will be assigned and due approximately weekly. Your grade will only include the scores from your top nine homeworks. For homeworks, I do not mind collaboration. However, all final work must be your own. I will not grade homeworks that are near identical - a distinction I reserve the right to make.

Tests

There will be a midterm during week nine of the term on 3/18/21. There will be a final on 5/6/2021.

Grading

Your final grade in this course will be determined by a weighted average of your homework grades, the midterm, and the final; viz.,

\[
\text{Grade} = 0.65 \cdot \text{Homework Score} + 0.15 \cdot \text{Midterm} + 0.20 \cdot \text{Final}
\]

Grading will conform to the University’s definitions and will be curved.

University Policies Inquiries regarding any changes of grade should be directed to the instructor of the course; you may wish to contact the Student Conflict Resolution Center (SCRC) in 211 Eddy Hall (624-7272) for assistance.

Students with disabilities that affect their ability to participate fully in class or to meet all course requirements are encouraged to bring this to the attention of the instructor so that appropriate accommodations can be arranged. Further information is available from Disabilities Services (230 McNamara).

University policy prohibits sexual harassment as defined in the December 1998 policy statement, available at the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action. Questions or concerns about sexual harassment should be directed to this office, located in 419 Morrill Hall. The University Senates academic policies are available at

http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/usen/policies.html

The Universitys Student Conflict Resolution Center website is

http://www1.umn.edu/sos/index.html