ACTUARIAL SCIENCE (ACTS)

ACTS 95 Actuarial Practicum
Notes: Open only to Actuarial Science majors.
Description: Course tracks completion of internship or professional development requirement for undergraduate Actuarial Science majors and graduate students in the Actuarial Science masters program.
Credit Hours: 0
Max credits per semester:
Max credits per degree:
Grading Option: Pass No Pass

ACTS 395 Professional Internship
Crosslisted with: BSAD 395, ACCT 395, ECON 395, FINA 395, MNGT 395, SCMA 395
Prerequisites: An undergraduate major in the College of Business with at least sophomore standing and departmental consent and acceptance into an approved internship. Departmental credit for course cross-listings may have additional requirements for consent.
Notes: May be repeated.
Description: Provides an opportunity to study theories, principles, practices, techniques, and strategies utilized in the business field through an internship related to the major field of study and an integral or important part of their program of study. Reflect on classroom knowledge and develop practical experience in professional business situations through an approved internship.
Credit Hours: 0-3
Min credits per semester:
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 6
Grading Option: Graded with Option
Experiential Learning: Internship/Co-op

ACTS 399 Independent Study
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-3
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 24
Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACTS 401 Problem Lab: Basic Actuarial Applications of Probability
Prerequisites: MATH 208 or 208H and STAT 462, or parallel, and both with a grade of "Pass" or "C" or better.
Description: Calculus-based probability, both univariate and multivariate, applications to risk management-related problems. Problems as posed in the Society of Actuaries (SOA) Exam "P" and/or Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) Exam "1". Determination of loss frequency distributions and their characteristics, expected value, variance, and percentiles. Determination of loss severity distributions and their characteristics, expected value, variance, and percentiles. Determination of loss sharing parameters, deductibles, and maximum payments.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 402 Problem Lab: Basic Actuarial Applications of Financial Mathematics
Prerequisites: ACTS 440/840 or parallel
Description: Application of basic mathematics of finance to problems involving valuation of financial transactions. Problems as posed in the "Society of Actuaries (SOA) Exam 'FM'" and/or "Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) Exam '2'". Determining equivalent measures of interest; estimating the rate of return on a fund; discounting or accumulating a sequence of payments with interest; determining yield rate; length of investment; amounts of investment contributions or amounts of investment returns for various types of financial transactions; and basic calculations involving yield curves, spot rates, forward rates, duration, convexity, immunization and short sales; introduction to financial derivatives (forwards, options, futures, and swaps) and their use in risk management; and introduction to the concept of no-arbitage as a fundamental concept in financial mathematics.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 403 Problem Lab: Actuarial Models - Life Contingencies
Prerequisites: ACTS 470/870, ACTS 471/871, and ACTS 473/873
Description: Problems as posed in the "Society of Actuaries (SOA) Exam 'M'" and/or "Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) Exam '3'". Survival and severity models; "Markov Chain" models; life contingencies; and "Poisson" processes.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 404 Problem Lab: Construction and Evaluation of Actuarial Models
Prerequisites: ACTS 410 and 425
Description: Problems as posed in the Society of Actuaries (SOA) Exam "C" and/or Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) Exam "4". Construction of empirical models; construction and selection of parametric models; credibility theory; interpolation and smoothing of data; and simulation.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 405 Problem Lab: Actuarial Models - Financial Economics
Prerequisites: ACTS 440/840 and FINA 467
Description: Problems as posed in the "Society of Actuaries (SOA) Exam 'M'". Interest rate models; rational valuation of derivative securities (option pricing: put-call parity, the binomial model, Black-Scholes formula, and actuarial applications; interpretation of option Greeks and delta-hedging; features of exotic options; an introduction to Brownian motion and Itô's lemma); and risk management techniques.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 410 Introduction to Credibility, Smoothing of Data, and Simulation
Crosslisted with: ACTS 810
Prerequisites: STAT 463
Description: Full, partial, Buhlmann, and Buhlmann-Straub credibility models. Introduction to empirical Bayes and statistical distributions used to model loss experience. Application of "polynomial splines" to actuarial data. Simulation of "discrete" and "continuous random" variables in context of actuarial models. Simulation to "p-value" of hypothesis test. "Bootstrap method" of estimating the "mean squared error" of an estimator.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 404

ACTS 425 Survival Models
Crosslisted with: ACTS 825
Prerequisites: STAT 463 with a grade of "C" or better
Description: Parametric and tabular survival models. Estimation based on observations that might not be complete. Concomitant variables. Use of population data. Applications to groups with impaired lives.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 404

ACTS 430 Actuarial Applications of Applied Statistics
Crosslisted with: ACTS 830
Prerequisites: STAT 463 with a grade of "C" or better
Notes: Data sets processed and analyzed using statistical software.
Description: Introduction to forecasting in actuarial science. Simple and multiple regression, instrumental variables, time series methods, and applications of methods in forecasting actuarial variables. Interest rates, inflation rates, and claim frequencies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 431 Actuarial Applications of Time Series and Machine Learning
Crosslisted with: ACTS 831
Prerequisites: STAT 463 with a grade of "C" or better.
Description: Introduction to statistical learning with actuarial applications using time series models and machine learning techniques. The topics covered include time series models, principal component analysis (PCA), decision tree, and clustering.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Offered: SPRING

ACTS 440 Interest Theory
Crosslisted with: ACTS 840
Prerequisites: MATH 208 or 208H with a grade of "Pass" or "C" or better, or parallel
Notes: Grade only
Description: Application of financial mathematics to problems involving valuation of financial transactions; equivalent measures of interest; rate of return on a fund; discounting or accumulating a sequence of payments with interest; and yield rates, length of investment, amounts of investment contributions or amounts of investment returns for various types of financial transactions; loans and bonds. Introduction to the mathematics of modern financial analysis. Calculations involving yield curves, spot rates, forward rates, duration, convexity, and immunization.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 405; ECON 365, FINA 365; FINA 338; FINA 363; FINA 367; FINA 375; FINA 382; FINA 401; FINA 450; FINA 464; MNGT 475

ACTS 441 Introduction to Financial Economics
Crosslisted with: ACTS 841
Prerequisites: MATH 208 with grade of "C" or better or concurrent; ACTS 440
Description: Financial mathematics concepts related to short sales, forwards, options, futures, and swaps, and their use in risk management, hedging and investment strategies, fundamental concepts of put-call parity and no-arbitrage, and interest rate models.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 442 Principles of Pension Valuation
Crosslisted with: ACTS 842
Prerequisites: ACTS 471/871 with a grade of "C" or better
Description: Actuarial cost methods. Determination of normal costs and accrued liability. Effect on valuation results due to changes in experience, assumptions and plan provisions. Valuation of ancillary benefits. Determination of actuarially equivalent benefits at early or postponed retirement and optional forms of payment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 450 Stochastic Processes for Actuaries
Crosslisted with: ACTS 850
Prerequisites: STAT 463 with a grade of "C" or better
Description: Introduction to stochastic processes and their applications in actuarial science. Discrete-time and continuous-time processes; Markov chains; the Poisson process; compound Poisson processes; non-homogeneous Poisson processes; arithmetic and geometric Brownian motions. Applications of these processes in computation of resident fees for continuing care retirement communities. Pricing of financial instruments.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 470 Life Contingencies I
Crosslisted with: ACTS 870
Prerequisites: ACTS 440 and STAT 462, each with a grade of "C" or better
Notes: First course of a two-course sequence that includes ACTS 471.
Description: Theory and applications of contingency mathematics in the areas of life and health insurance, annuities, and pensions. Probabilistic models.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 403

ACTS 471 Life Contingencies II
Crosslisted with: ACTS 871
Prerequisites: ACTS 470 and STAT 462, each with a grade of "C" or better
Notes: Second course of a two-course sequence that includes ACTS 470.
Description: Life insurance reserve for models based on a single life. Introduction to multiple life models for pensions and life insurance and to multiple decrement models.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 403; ACTS 442, ACTS 842

ACTS 473 Introduction to Risk Theory
Crosslisted with: ACTS 873
Prerequisites: STAT 462 with a grade of "C" or better
Description: Applications of compound distributions in modeling of insurance loss. Continuous-time compound Poisson surplus processes, computation of ruin probabilities, the distributions of the deficit at the time of ruin, and the maximal aggregate loss. The effect of reinsurance on the probability of ruin.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Prerequisite for: ACTS 403

ACTS 474 Introduction to Property/Casualty Actuarial Science
Crosslisted with: ACTS 874
Prerequisites: STAT 462 with a grade of "C" or better.
Description: Mathematical, financial, and risk-theoretical foundations of casualty actuarial science. Risk theory, loss reserving, ratemaking, risk classification, credibility theory, reinsurance, financial pricing of insurance, and other special issues and applications.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded

ACTS 475 Actuarial Applications in Practice
Crosslisted with: ACTS 875
Prerequisites: ACTS 470/870; FINA 338
Description: Principles and practices of pricing and/or funding and valuation for life, health, property and liability insurance, and annuities and pension plans. Commercially available actuarial modeling software.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Grading Option: Graded
Offered: FALL/SPR
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product