Math 577
Lecture 2 M 4:00-5:15pm, W 3:00-4:15 MATH 102
Fall 2009

Instructor: Marek Rychlik, Professor of Mathematics
Office: MATH 605
Office Hours: W 10-12, W 1-2 (subject to change)
Phone: 621-6865
Email: rychlik@u.arizona.edu
Instr. Webpage: **http://alamos.math.arizona.edu**
Blog: **http://marekrychlik.com**
Course Webpage: **http://alamos.math.arizona.edu/math577**

General Information

Course Description (from the Schedule of Classes): A selection of topics based on the MacKay's textbook including coding theory, information theory, data compression, Bayesian inference and neural networks.

Text: David MacKay, *Information Theory, Inference and Learning Algorithms*, Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every scheduled class and to be familiar with the University Class Attendance policy as it appears in the General Catalog. It is the students responsibility to keep informed of any announcements, syllabus adjustments or policy changes made during scheduled classes. Students are expected to behave in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and the Code of Academic Integrity. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. University policies can be found at **http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies**. Students who miss the first two class meeting will be administratively dropped unless they have made other arrangements.

Homework, Projects and Experiments: Homework and projects will be assigned throughout the semester. The student is expected to give a number of in-class presentations of solutions to selected problems in the book. Homework and projects count for 50% of the grade. Some homework will involve programming in MATLAB.

In-Class Exams: In lieu of the final exam, the student is expected to deliver a talk on a subject agreed upon with the instructor, related to one of the topics covered in class, and of sufficient depth to involve several techniques covered in class. This talk is worth up to 50% of the grade.

Additional Course Policies

Students with disabilities: If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with your instructor to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; drc.arizona.edu).You should notify your instructor of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations by January 30, 2009.You and your instructor can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

Students withdrawing from the course: If you withdraw from the course by Septenber 4, the course will be deleted from your enrollment record. If you withdraw from the course by September 21, you will receive a grade of W. The University allows withdrawals after September 21, but only with the Deans signature. Late withdraws will be dealt with on a case by case basis, and requests for late withdraw with a W without a valid reason may or may not be honored.

Incompletes: The grade of I will be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The student has completed all but a small portion of the required work.
(2) The student has scored at least 50
(3) The student has a valid reason for not completing the course on time.
(4) The student agrees to make up the material in a short period of time.
(5) The student asks for the incomplete before grades are due, 48 hours after the final exam.