

Homework 2 Due in class on Fri., Apr. 11, 2008 Please do your own work

Reminder: Homework is due in class on the due date assigned. Late homework will not be accepted. All homework is in a format that is easy to type into an email message, so that it may be emailed by class time if (and only if) you are unable to attend class on the day it is due.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. In addition to plagiarism, this includes copying any work from other students, or allowing them to copy from you.

Important Note: Whenever doing problems from the textbook, be sure to look at the starred questions and answers in the back of the book, to see the format for answering, and to better understand the assignment. Be sure to do all assigned problems completely. Each question, or each part of a multi-part question, is worth one homework point.

From the text:

9.1, II, 2, 6, 8 (30 multiple choice questions), pp. 462-465

9.2, I, 1-10 unstarred (6 multiple choice questions), p. 485

9.2, III, 1-5 unstarred (3 triple multiple choice questions), pp. 489-490

9.3, I, 1-10 unstarred (6 numerical questions), p. 503

Writing Assignment (20 homework points)

Read “The Streak of Streaks,” a book review by Stephen Jay Gould, online at <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/4337>, and write a paper (approximately 1-2 pages in length, double-spaced, 1-inch margins all around, 11-12 point type) that answers the following questions.

1. According to Gould, why is Joe DiMaggio's fifty-six–game hitting streak “the greatest factual achievement in the history of baseball”? (In addition to other things, a complete answer should include something about Ed Purcell.)
2. Explain the counterintuitive findings of Stanford psychologist Amos Tversky regarding “hot hands” in basketball.
3. Explain Tversky’s study conducted with Kahneman, regarding the fictional Linda, along with the explanation about matching to type.
4. Explain the following statement: “Good players have higher characteristic probabilities, hence longer streaks.” (Your answer should include something about coin-tossing models.)