Statistics G8243
Tuesday, January 20, 2009
Handout #2

Statistics G8243: Course Information

Instructor: Ioannis Kontoyiannis
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Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:40-3:55 p.m.
in room 1025 in the SSW bldg
Office Hours: Thursdays 4-6 p.m., or by appointment
Class web-page: TBA

PREREQUISITES.
Knowledge of basic probability. Depending on the background of those attending the class, the
contents and the level of mathematical sophistication of the course may vary accordingly.

BOOKS.
We will follow several parts of the book by Cover and Thomas, Elements of Information Theory.
Material may also be drawn from other places, e.g., Information Theory by Csiszár and Körner,
and Information Theory and Reliable Communication by Gallager.

HOMEWORKS.
Homework assignments will be given every 2-3 weeks, and solutions will usually be provided
together with the graded homeworks.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS – GRADING.
Instead of a final exam, students in the class will have the option of either giving an oral
presentation in class on material drawn from the recent relevant literature, or doing a project
and writing a project report. If you insist on a formula, the rough breakdown of your final
grade is: Final project/presentation 85%, Homework 15%.

QUESTIONS.
Please INTERRUPT and ask during class. Also come to office hours.

ATTENDANCE.
You are expected to come to every class; attendance will be noted.

IS THIS CLASS FOR YOU?
This class is intended to be for first-year graduate students and for advanced undergraduates
in Math, Stat, Engineering, CS, and related fields. If you are not sure if you have the required
background for the class, you should come talk to me now.