Syllabus for Math 449, Spring 2006:

- Office: PSB 410. Office Hours: 10:00 -10:25 MWF and 5:15 - 5:55 p.m. on TuTh. Phone: 956-4666. Email: ramsey@math.hawaii.edu. Appointments are welcome at other times.

- Textbook: The main textbook is Loss Models: From Data to Decisions (Second Edition), published in 2004, by S.A. Klugman, H.H. Panjer and G.E. Willmot. The course will cover Section 1.1 of Chapter 1; Chapters 9-11; Chapter 12 except for sections 12.5.4, 12.5.5 and 12.6; Chapter 13; Chapter 15; much of Chapter 16; and Chapter 17. We will supplement the textbook with professional material published by such companies as Actex, to the extent that the supplementary material seems helpful to passing the SOA Exam C about loss models. We will flexibly adjust course content whenever there is new information about the content of the SOA Examination C (Examination C is about loss models). This is unlikely, but the possibility must be mentioned.

- Grading depends on homework assignments (70 percent), and one final examination (30 percent). The final examination will be a two-hour imitation of the four-hour national examination, and will be given 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of final examination week. Homework is penalized 25% per class period for being late.

- The grades might be curved; however, an overall score of 90% will guarantee an “A”, 80% will guarantee a “B”, 70% will guarantee a “C” and 60% will guarantee a “D”.

- Your homework should be written so that your thinking is clearly presented and understood by your fellow students.

- Please do not communicate with each other during examinations. With homework, you are free to consult other people (including me) but ultimately the work should be your own. If someone gives you too much help on some task, please see me for an alternative assignment. An example of too much help would be when you ask someone for help and they tell you the entire answer.
• We have about 30 lectures this semester. We expect to lecture on all of the topics that are covered in the textbook with about 4 weeks left over to review and perhaps practice for the national examination. The SOA Examination C has 35 questions to be done in 4 hours, which is 6.86 minutes per question. That speed is a significant challenge.

• I will sign withdrawals until the campus-wide deadline for W’s with just a professor’s signature.

This syllabus was prepared January 8, 2006.