## 15 CONTINUOUS DISTRIBUTIONS

## The PDF of a continuous distribution

- 1. the total area under the PDF is 1
- 2. the area under the PDF between two points a and b is the probability that the random variable lies between a and b
- 3. PDF is positive or zero it is zero in any range where the random variable never falls

## Notation:

- Probability Density Function (PDF): The PDF of a continuous variable X is usually denoted by f(x)
- Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF) As in the discrete case, the CDF is defined as the probability that the random variable X is less than or equal to some specified x.

The CDF of a continuous variable X is usually denoted by F(x) and defined by

$$F(x) = P(X \le x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x} f(X) dX$$