Syllabus

STA 4321 (4442) Introduction to Probability
STA 5325 (8794) Fundamentals of Probability

Fall 2012

Instructor:

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Objectives:

The sequence of courses STA 4321-4322 (rep. 5325-5328) provides a formal and systematic introduction to mathematical statistics for students who have passed three semesters of standard undergraduate level calculus. STA 4321/5325 introduces the background in probability that is necessary to understand the classical statistical theory introduced in STA 4322/5328. Major topics include the basic formal elements of probability, discrete and continuous random variables, multivariate distributions, distributions of functions of random variables, and fundamental limit theorems.

Text:

Seventh edition of Mathematical Statistics with Applications by Wackerly, Mendenhall, and Scheaffer.

Course Website:

https://elearning2.courses.ufl.edu/portal/site/UFL-STA4321-STA5325-15300-82012

Please check this site regularly. Most course documents and important information, including suggested homework exercises and readings, course schedule, and special announcements, will be posted there.

Exams and Quizzes:

There will be approximately ten in-class quizzes, typically scheduled for Fridays. Each will take place during the final 5 to 10 minutes of class time. The quizzes are open book and open notes. All quizzes have equal weight for grading, but the lowest three of your quiz scores will be dropped. The seven highest quiz scores will count for a total of 31%. Three in-class exams are tentatively scheduled on **October 5, November 9 and December 5**, and they will count 23% each. You will be permitted to bring one 8.5 by 11 sheet of paper with formulas or notes on both sides to each exam. No make-up quizzes or exams will be offered.

Homework:

Appropriate textbook readings and suggested textbook exercises will be posted as the course progresses. You are not expected to submit your answers to the suggested exercises, but you should solve all of them to thoroughly learn the material and best prepare yourself for exams. Though you are allowed to work with other students to solve the suggested exercises and to learn course material in general, please keep in mind that you will be assessed individually. Answers to selected exercises can be found near the end of the textbook. Naturally, you will learn best if you attempt to solve the exercises before consulting the solutions.

Lecture Attendance:

Classroom lecture attendance is fully expected, even if not strictly enforced. You are responsible for learning all material presented during lecture, and any topic covered in lecture is a potential exam topic (unless otherwise stated).

Reasonable Accommodations:

To request classroom accommodation, please be certain that you have made all necessary arrangements with the Dean of Students Office, and obtain from them documentation to submit to the instructor at the time of your request. A request must be made to the instructor at least one week in advance of the date for which the accommodation is requested. This course information and policies sheet can be made available in alternative formats to accommodate print-related disabilities. Contact the instructor for more information.

Academic Integrity:

Please familiarize yourself with the Student Honor Code and Academic Honesty Guidelines outlined in your University of Florida Student Guide and at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcode.php