



DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

STAT 430

Probability

Spring 2020

MW 9:00-10:30am, 10:30am-12:00pm @ 255 JMHH

Professor:

- T. Tony Cai, tcai@wharton.upenn.edu, Office: 469 JMHH
Office hours: Monday 3:00-5:00pm

Teaching Assistants (Office hours and review sessions TBA):

- Yichen Wang (lead TA), wangyc@wharton.upenn.edu
- Jessie Ye Dong, yedong@seas.upenn.edu
- Jasper Huang, jashuang@seas.upenn.edu

Textbook:

- *A First Course in Probability* by S. Ross. 10th Edition, Prentice Hall.

The course covers Chapters 1-8. Additional topics will also be covered if time permits. Lecture notes will be available on the course website. We expect to cover Chapter 1 through Section 5 of Chapter 4 before the first midterm (on Monday, 2/17), the first six chapters before the second midterm (on Monday, 4/6), and the rest in the remaining time.

References:

- *Introduction to Probability* by C. Grinstead & J. L. Snell. Available at www.dartmouth.edu/~chance/teaching_aids/books_articles/probability_book/book.html
- *Probability* by Jim Pitman, Springer, 1993.

Course Website:

- <https://wharton.instructure.com/courses/1494671>
- Check the website regularly for course related information including lecture notes, homework assignments, solutions, and practice problems for the exams.



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Help:

- The TAs will hold weekly office hours and run weekly review sessions in which the TAs will discuss some additional examples and answer your course related questions.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned but not collected. The purpose of the homework is to help you learn the material. Solutions will be available online.

Exam:

There will be two in-class midterm exams and one final exam. Exams are closed book, i.e., no books or notes are allowed.

- Midterm 1: Monday, February 17.
- Midterm 2: Monday, April 6.
- Final: 6-8pm, Wednesday, May 6.

Grade Allocation:

- Midterms: 25% each
- Final: 50%

The course grades will be distributed approximately as follows:

- A+, A, A-: 35%
- B+, B, B-: 40-45%
- C+ and lower: 20-25%

There is no possibility of earning extra credit or of changing the grades.