

**STATISTICS 523:
Advanced Theory of Probability
Spring 2020**

Time: 11:30 - 12:20 MWF (lecture)

Place: **MEB 251** → via Zoom

Professor: Jon A. Wellner
Office: B320 Padelford
Phone: 543-6207
e-mail: jaw@stat.washington.edu

Office Hours: 1:30 - 3:30 MWF (**via Zoom; by appointment**)

Texts:

- *Probability for Statisticians*
by G. R. Shorack, 1998 & 2017.
- *Probability: Theory and Examples*, 5th Edition.
by R. Durrett, 2019.
- *Normal Approximation by Stein's Method*
by L.H.Y. Chen, L. Goldstein, and Qi-Man Shao, (2011).

Homework: Posted and sent by e-mail Wednesday; due following Wednesday.

Course Content: See accompanying outline.

Grading: Homework: 35%
Midterm: 30%, Friday, May 12
Course Project: 35%, due Monday, June 8
(See Course Project Handout)

Course Web site: www.stat.washington.edu/COURSES/520s/521/fws.19-20.html
Policies
& Expectations: see next page.

Attendance at all class sessions (via Zoom) is very important. Regular attendance counts and I pay attention to this. I will lower the grade you “earn” for lack of attendance. Learning is a partnership and you need to do your part.

Expectations: You are expected to study the entire sections of the text(s) that are assigned and not just the examples or theory discussed in class. Doing problems is the best way to learn. Approaches and ways of thinking will be discussed in class. To learn to use them you will need to do all the HW.

Policies regarding phones and computers: Laptop computers or tablet devices will be needed to participate in the Zoom meetings/lectures. Please set the audio on your devices to mute unless you have a question or otherwise need to communicate.

Homework due dates: I will send homework and assignments on Wednesday mornings via e-mail and I will post them on the class web pages. Weekly HW assignments are due via e-mail at the beginning of class on Wednesdays. I would ask that you turn in HW assignments before class on Wednesdays.

Homework format: Write your name, the Problem Set number, and the date assigned in the upper right hand corner. Staple homework pages together. Write solutions neatly and legibly using complete English sentences.

Doing Homework: Feel free to discuss homework with your fellow students; you can learn a lot through discussion. You should try to *think* about homework problems *yourself* before discussion. You will be most successful at learning the material if you develop your own approaches and ways of thinking. Homework *write-ups* should be done *on your own*. I would encourage you to write your homework solutions in latex and submit the solutions in the form of .pdf files.