

**STA 4321/5325**  
**Introduction to Probability / Fundamentals of Probability**  
**Section 1192/6790 (3 credit hours)**  
Spring 2011  
Course Information and Policies

**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.

**Prerequisite:** MAC 2313 (or equivalent third semester calculus course) and either STA 2023 or STA 3032

**Course Website:** <http://www.stat.ufl.edu/~dasgupta>

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

**Instructor:** Shibasish Dasgupta  
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Email: [dasgupta@stat.ufl.edu](mailto:dasgupta@stat.ufl.edu)  
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**Lecture:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, **Period 8** (3:00 pm - 3:50 pm), Griffin-Floyd Hall, Room 100.

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday, 5-6 PM, Griffin-Floyd Hall, Room 218 or by appointment.

**Note:** Office Hours may change depending on instructor's convenience.

**Teaching Assistant:** *Subhadip Pal*

Office: 423 McCarty C Building

E-mail: subhadippal@stat.ufl.edu

Office Hours: M W F 9th Period (4:05 pm – 4:55 pm)

**Required Textbook:** Dennis D. Wackerly, William Mendenhall III, & Richard L. Scheaffer, *Mathematical Statistics with Applications*, **7th Edition**, Brooks/Cole, Cengage Learning.

**Lecture Attendance:** Classroom lecture attendance is fully expected. **Random attendance will be taken on any day and any time in the class.** Your class participation will be directly related to your grade. You are responsible for learning all material presented during lecture, and any topic covered in lecture is a potential exam topic (unless otherwise stated). Please respect your classmates and avoid any circumstances or activities that may be distracting, insensitive, or harmful. Please bring your UF ID card to lecture. You must do so on the date of any exam.

**Homework:** Appropriate textbook readings and suggested textbook exercises will be posted as the course progresses. You are expected to submit your answers to the suggested exercises to the instructor in the class on the due date **ONLY**. **No late homework will be accepted for any reasons.** You should solve all of them on your own to thoroughly learn the material and best prepare yourself for exams. Though you are allowed to work with other students 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.

**Exams:** Four *within-term non-cumulative* exams are tentatively scheduled:

**January 31** – Exam 1

**February 28** – Exam 2

**March 28** – Exam 3

**April 20** – Exam 4

Exams will take place in class for the entire class period. Policies and coverage details will be announced prior to the date of each exam. All within-term exams have equal weight for grading.

*You must take the exam at the official date and time – no exceptions for personal travel will be granted. Make-up exams will not be entertained unless you provide specific official documentation explaining the reason of your absence. Then it's finally the instructor's decision whether you're eligible for the make-up exam or not depending on the importance of your document.*

**Course Grade:** Your grade in this course will be based on exams, homework, and class participation. Total points earned will be based on a composite score: 15% class participation, 25% homework, 60% within-term exams (15% for each).

Class participation assessment will include attendance/tardiness, preparation for class, and participation in discussions.

Final letter grades will be assigned on the University's newly-instituted grading scale that includes minus-grades. Please familiarize yourself with the new policy related to this scale and the resulting changes in the grade point equivalences of letter grades.

Details may be found on the following web page:

<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

You are eligible for a grade of Incomplete (I\*) only if you have completed a significant amount of the graded course work and you are currently passing based on that work (with a C or better), as determined by the instructor. If you find that you cannot continue the semester before this point is reached, you should instead seek an administrative withdrawal. To receive a grade of Incomplete, CLAS policy requires you to sign an Incomplete Grade Contract with the instructor that specifies a plan and deadline for completing the course.

**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/studentguide/studentrights.php>.

**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.