# APPM/STAT/MATH 4520/5520 Mathematical Statistics

X."—User603, stats stack exchange

## Course Description

Welcome to a first course in Mathematical Statistics! Unlike many other statistics courses, this is not a data oriented course. Instead, it is a course about the probability and statistical thinking needed in order to do statistics. As such, the course will focus on theoretical results—and often, proofs of those results. Consequently, a basic probability course (e.g., APPM 3570 Applied Probability) is an important



prerequisite. After a brief review of some notation and definitions from basic probability, we will cover a number of topics, including different methods for deriving and assessing statistical estimators (both point and interval estimators), theoretical results relevant to hypothesis testing, and other important tools for statistical inference. All that to say, we will be statisticians of type (3) this semester (as defined above by User603 on Stats Stack Exchange!). The ultimate goal for many of us will be to become statisticians of type (1)—few people are employed to be *mathematical* statisticians; however, a type (1) statistician who knows how to "work with X" will be much better for it. That is the overarching goal of this course—to learn the mathematics, probability, and statistical theory to make us all better statisticians and data scientists.

## Learning Goals

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1. Compute the distribution of a transformation of random variables (univariate, bivariate, and multivariate), minima, and maxima.
- 2. Define a moment generating function, and use it to compute moments (e.g., the mean and variance), and to derive other theoretical results.
- 3. Define, derive, and interpret estimators of different quantities of interest (e.g., maximum likelihood estimator, method of moments estimator).

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- 4. State, prove, and apply important results related to the quality of an estimator (e.g., is the estimator *unbiased*?).
- 5. Define, derive, interpret, and evaluate interval estimates (both frequentist and Bayesian) for means, differences of means, proportions, and variances.

6.

## Exams (20% each)

There will be two evening

courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct.

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