

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Course Syllabus

OIDD 931 - STOCHASTIC MODELS II

Q3, Jan 14 - March 1, 2016

Status: December 21, 2015

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Lectures: Tuesday, Thursday 10:30 am – noon, JMHH F88
Office hours: TBA

Evaluation: Weekly/biweekly homework assignments (30%);
participation (15%);
final exam (55%)

Prerequisites: Calculus (including differential equations), linear algebra, probability
(no measure theory required), stochastic models as in OPIM 930/OIDD 930

Texts:

- Karlin and Taylor *A First Course in Stochastic Processes*, 2nd ed., 1975, Academic Press
- Ross *Stochastic Processes*, 2nd ed., Wiley
- Copies of these texts as well as some other books of interest have been put on reserve at the Lippincott library.
- Class handouts and assignments will be made available on the course website.

Course Description:

This is the second part of our Stochastic Models course sequence. Building on the elementary stochastic processes presented in Stochastic Models I, we now study the more general theory of renewal processes. Of particular interest are the limiting results such as the Key Renewal Theorem that enable us to calculate long run performance measures of interest. We then introduce martingales which provide a basic approach for studying applied probability models. Martingales will prove particularly useful in our study of Brownian motion processes. Besides presenting general results on Brownian motion, we will look at applications including some financial models of interest.

Course Topics:

A tentative course outline follows. Content and focus may vary based on student background and interest.

Session#	Date	Topic	Assignment Due
1	Thu 1/14	Time Reversibility 1	
2	Tue 1/19	Time Reversibility 2	
3	Thu 1/21	Renewal Theory 1	Hw 1
4	Tue 1/26	Renewal Theory 2	
5	Thu 1/28	Renewal Theory 3	Hw 2
6	Tue 2/2	Renewal Theory 4	
7	Thu 2/4	Renewal Theory 5	
8	Tue 2/9	Branching Processes 1	Hw 3
9	Thu 2/11	Branching Processes 2	
10	Tue 2/16	Martingales 1	Hw 4
11	Thu 2/18	Martingales 2	
12	Tue 2/23	Brownian Motion 1	Hw 5
13	Thu 2/25	Brownian Motion 2	
14	Tue 3/1	Brownian Motion 3	Hw 6
15	Thu 3/3	Final Exam [Mark your Calendars]	

Website:

We will be using a Canvas website that facilitates information sharing, course logistics and assignments. To access your Canvas site, go to <https://canvas.upenn.edu/courses/xxxxx>. Please, check the Canvas website frequently during the semester for up to date information, assignments, and class handouts.

Homework:

Assignments will be given on a weekly/biweekly basis. Please, submit a hard copy of your solutions at the beginning of class on the due date listed; if you can't make the deadline due to extenuating circumstances, please ask the instructor before the due-date for a possible extension. Unless otherwise stated, homework is to be done individually. You are encouraged to discuss the problems (and any of the material covered in class) with each other; yet the work that you submit must be your own. If you benefited from discussions with a peer, please do acknowledge the collaboration. Students are expected to refrain from soliciting solutions from other sources (e.g. internet, previous years' classes, etc). If you do use outside information, academic honesty requires you to state such sources.

Participation:

This is a Ph.D. level course. Our class sessions are meant to provide a learning environment that involves all participants. I am always open for questions, both inside the classroom and during office hours. Students are expected to come prepared to class, ask relevant questions, and actively participate in classroom discussions.

Exams:

There will be an open book final exam, on **Thursday, March 3** during class.