

How to Succeed in *Applied Probability and Statistics*



Everything You Need
to Succeed in
Applied Probability and Statistics

This document contains advice and tips collected by course instructors after years of working with students just like you. Use these recommendations to achieve your goal of passing Applied Probability and Statistics!

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Getting Started Right

Contacting a Course Instructor

- Course instructors work together as a team, so please contact any course instructor, even if he or she is not assigned to you.
- [Schedule an appointment](#) with any course instructor to work through practice questions, get your questions answered, set goals, or get general advice about the course.
- Course instructors are also available *without* an appointment. Connect through [Live Instructor Support](#). To learn more about Live Instructor Support, including a walk through on how to get started, [watch this video](#).
- Course instructors are available through their individual email addresses, which is the preferred way to contact them. If your course instructor is out of the office, contact the team at GEStats@wgu.edu.
- Course instructors can share their screen with you to work through problems together.

Getting Ready to Study

These tips will help you make the most of every study session.

Prepare: Ready your calculator, notebook, and a pen or pencil. (If you generally use the whiteboard, keep a few key problems in a notebook to review as preparation for the assessment.) Review the [calculator policy](#).

Review: Take five or ten minutes to review what you learned in your previous study session. Ask yourself:

- What vocabulary words did I learn?
- What types of examples did I complete?
- How did this build on what I already knew?

Ask for Help: For questions along the way, please contact a course instructor. A good rule of thumb is to ask for help after 15 minutes of being “stuck.” See Contacting a Course Instructor, above.

Current Policies

Check out current [requirements for calculators](#) in Applied Probability and Statistics.



Before scheduling your objective assessment, read the [current requirements for whiteboard use](#) during your assessment.



Live Events and Recorded Cohorts

Check out more learning options by clicking the “Explore Cohort Offerings” button in the course of study for Applied Probability and Statistics or on the [live and recorded cohort page](#) for Applied Probability and Statistics. Note these recommendations from the course instructors:

- While attending live events and watching videos, work through the examples along with the instructor and write notes on
 - key ideas,
 - formulas,
 - steps to solving problems, and
 - thought process or reasoning.
- If you like, print out the recorded cohort notes and write your own notes directly on these.
- Watch the video for a Module before or after (but not instead of) reading the Module in MindEdge.
- In the Live Event, participate in polls, answer questions asked by the instructors, chat with your fellow classmates, and ask questions as they arise.
- If you have questions as you are watching the videos, please follow the instructions in the “Contacting a Course Instructor” section of this document.

Supplemental Information

Key Rules and Formulas

Use this summary of [key rules and formulas](#) as a supplement to the MindEdge text.

Graphical Displays and Numerical Measures

The [graphical displays and numerical measures](#) document lists out the appropriate graphical display and numerical measure to use in different types of statistical studies.

Unit Conversions

Use the [unit conversions](#) sheet as a quick reference when working on unit conversions in Module 2.



Working through the MindEdge Learning Resource

Review Units

As you work through the content in the Applied Probability and Statistics course, take notes on the following and regularly review your notes:

- Main ideas
- Vocabulary and definitions
- Strategies, rules, and steps
- Examples

Follow the instructions in the Contacting a Course Instructor section as needed.

Using Exercises, Review Checkpoints, and Adaptive Learning Activities

Exercises, Review Checkpoints, and Adaptive Learning Activities provide immediate practice of key concepts directly related to the high-stakes assessment. Do not skip them! Follow these tips when you complete these activities:

- Work through the problems and study your notes regularly.
- Write a brief summary of your thought process for each question.
- Make special note of any challenging problems for discussion with your course instructor at your next meeting.

Follow the instructions in the Contacting a Course Instructor section as needed.

Engaging with the End-of-Module Problem Sets and Review Tests

Use End-of-Module Problem Sets and Review Tests to gauge your own progress toward mastery. When you engage in these activities:

- Do not use notes.
- Show each step and keep your work, when applicable.
- Write a brief summary of your thought process for each question.
- Make a special note of any exercises that challenged you for discussion with your course instructor.
- If you score below 80% on a problem set or a review test, follow the instructions in the Contacting a Course Instructor section.

The Pre-Assessment

Before taking the pre-assessment:

- Make sure you have completed the Modules in MindEdge as detailed in the “Working through the MindEdge Learning Resource” section of this document and passed an end of Module Problem Set for each with 80% or higher.
- There is only one version of the pre-assessment, so taking it multiple times diminishes its usefulness. Be selective about when you take it.
- Review your notes to prepare for the pre-assessment.
- Develop good practices as you prepare for the situation you will encounter in the high-stakes objective assessment:
 - Simulate the testing environment.
 - Set up your webcam.
 - Find and maintain a quiet environment.
 - Do not use notes.
 - Use the whiteboard and a calculator to solve problems.
 - Complete the pre-assessment in one session or with breaks as outlined in the ["Take a Break Feature for Proctored Online Assessments."](#)

If you have questions, please contact a course instructor. See “Contacting a Course Instructor” in this document.

During the pre-assessment:

- Use only a calculator and your whiteboard (or a notebook if you do not yet have access to the whiteboard).
- Take your time and work through each problem step by step.
- If you use a notebook instead of a whiteboard, be sure to write all the steps you used to complete the problem.
- Bookmark challenging problems to revisit, being mindful of the Take a Break guidelines.

After the pre-assessment:

- Use the coaching report and “Print View” to investigate any questions you missed.
- Rework missed problems and check your work to determine your mistake.
- If you have questions, follow the instructions in the “Contacting a Course Instructor” section of this document.
- Use the [pre-assessment/MindEdge Alignment Table](#) to determine which areas to focus your attention in MindEdge.

For questions regarding approval to take the high-stakes objective assessment for multiple attempt students, please contact a course instructor.