

ABSTRACT:

**WHAT DO WE WANT? AND WHEN DO WE WANT IT?
ALTERNATIVE OBJECTIVES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS
FOR EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN.**

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21 April 2020 from 02.00-04.00 p.m.
via Zoom

This talk will provide a survey of several papers on the theory and practice of experimental design. I will compare different objectives (estimator precision, outcomes of participants, informing policy choice to maximize average outcomes, and informing policy choice to maximize utilitarian welfare), and their implications for experimental design. I will consider heuristic algorithms, will prove approximate optimality results for some of these algorithms, and will discuss several empirical applications.