

Economics 321 (sec 001&002) - Introduction to Statistics

Semester: Fall 2007

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Course Description

This three credit hour course is designed for the students who have little or no background in statistics. Statistics is an incredibly useful tool that we see almost everywhere in everyday life and our studies. The basic statistical ideas, techniques, and methods to be covered range from, but are not limited to: probabilities, frequency distributions, the normal distribution, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, correlation and regression analysis, and analysis of variance.

Outline of course material to be covered

The Nature of Probability and Statistics
Frequency Distribution and Graphs
Data Description
Counting Techniques & Probability
Discrete Probability Distributions
The Normal Distribution
Confidence Intervals and Sample Size
Hypothesis testing
Testing the Difference between 2 Means, 2 Variances, & 2 Proportions
Correlation and Regression
Chi-Square and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

Class Resources

The following course materials are available from the bookstore:

Text: Bluman, Allan G., "Elementary Statistics, A Step by Step Approach, 4th ed." McGraw Hill.

It is recommended that you bring your text to lecture, as it will be frequently used in class for in-class examples and necessary statistical tables.

Grading Schedule

Grades will be based on the following:

Quizzes: 60%

Final Exam: 10%

Project: 20%

Participation: 10% (5% = presentation, 5% = peer review)

Final Exam: Please check UH's *Schedule Of Courses* to confirm your final exam schedule. If you are not willing and/or able to take the final exam at the time indicated (due to travel arrangements, multiple exams scheduled, time conflicts, etc.), please do not take this class. I will not administer early or late exams.

The quizzes/exams will be short answers, t/f, m/c, and/or problem solving. There are no make-up quizzes/exams. I will be assigning final grades using the plus/minus system.

Attendance and Class Participation

Attendance is mandatory and class participation may provide extra credit points when indicated by the instructor. You are responsible for any changes in material or announcements given in class. Contact a classmate for any information missed due to absence. **Tardiness, absence, or leaving early are not acceptable excuses for not knowing information or important announcements covered in class.**

Homework

Suggested homework problems from the text will be assigned. Homework problems are optional but is intended to prepare you for quizzes and exams.

Quizzes

Quizzes tentatively will be given on the lecture day following the completion of each chapter, with the first quiz given after the completion of chapter 3. The quiz may cover any topic covered up to that point in the class, but will probably focus on the completed chapter's material. Ten quizzes will be given but the lowest two grades will be dropped from grading consideration. There will be no make-up quizzes allowed for any reason.

Project and Participation

The project topic will be announced after completion of chapter 8 of the text. Participation grade consists of project presentation and peer review feedback

Academic Honesty

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Failure to comply with University of Hawaii guidelines of academic honesty may result in a failing grade in the course and further action taken by the university. Please do not attempt to test the boundaries of this guideline.

Cell phones and pagers: I respect the student's need for communication provided the following rules are followed without exception:

1. Devices are set on vibrate or silent mode.
2. Do not answer phone in class. Please leave instead of disrupting the instructor or those around you.
3. All phone conversations are to be completed before reentering class.

Please respect these rules so no other steps need to be taken to assure compliance.

I reserve the right to make any changes to class policy and schedule. You will be informed of any changes that occur.

Project presentation information

The following information will be a guideline for the project presentation section of the course (starting week after last quiz):

Peer Review Outline:

You will review all presentations except your own. Turn in each days review at the end of each class. Please write reviews on one side of one continuous page for the day.

1. Names of presenters
2. Project topic description
3. Suggestions or questions (if any)

Presentation Guideline:

- Write names of those in your group on chalkboard.
- Introduce topic (what is interesting about topic/why did you choose it?). Write null and alternative hypothesis on chalkboard.
- Discuss how the study was designed, potential challenges, and results (if any).
- Open discussion for peer feedback (any questions/suggestions?).
- Erase chalkboard.