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

Semester: Fall 2003

Instructor: David Ching                Office: Saunders 533
Office hours: M: 1:30-3 p.m., Th: 2:45-3:30 p.m. (or by appointment)
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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:


It is recommended that you bring your text to each lecture, as it will be frequently used in class for in class examples.
Grading Schedule

Grades will be based on the following:

Midterm 1  25%  (Friday: 10/3)
Midterm 2  25%  (Friday: 11/7)
Final Exam  25%  (12/15 Monday - Sec1: 12-2 p.m., Sec2: 9:45-11:45 a.m.)
Homework  20%  (Total of 3 HW sets, turned in the day of each exam.)
Attend./quizzes  5%

The exams will be short answers and problem solving. There are no make-up exams.

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 material or changes announced in class. It is recommended that you establish a contact in class for any questions regarding anything mentioned in class. Tardiness, absence, or leaving early are not acceptable excuses for not knowing information announced or covered in class.

Homework

Assignments from the text will be assigned. Homework sets will be collected at the end of the indicated sections (collected three times during semester) and checked for completion. Please show your work where applicable for full credit. Homework must be turned in by the end of the class session that it is due. No late homework sets will be accepted but they may be turned in early.

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.