

Spring 2018
ECON3818 – Introduction to Statistics with Computer Applications

Syllabus/Course Information

Course Description

Econ 3818 is a first course in the theory and methods of statistics, and is required for Economics major. This is basically a math class and we will study probability theory before the first midterm and will focus on statistics after we have finished the first test. In statistics part, we will think about what discrete and continuous random variables are and will also learn its related distributions. Furthermore, we will think about descriptive and inferential statistics including estimation and hypothesis testing. This course will be highly centered on theory rather than application using computer software.

Instructor Info/Schedule

Instructor: Doyoung Park
Class Meetings: MWF 1:00 pm – 1:50pm at BESC 185
Office: ECON 401
Office Hours: MWF 12:00 – 12:50 or by appointment
Email: dopa3399@colorado.edu
Course Website: Desire2Learn

Textbook:

Caniglia, Statistics for Economics, An Intuitive Approach, Harper Collins Publisher, 1992. This book is out of print, but available in soft cover at the CU bookstore. Since there is no disk or key to unlock a publisher web site associated with this book, and since there is only one edition, any used copy is equivalent to a new copy. The text has been used for this course at CU for the last four semesters, so that it is available on all the second hand book sites, at the Colorado Bookstore on College Avenue in Boulder, and other places.

Class Organization:

At the beginning, I will write an overview on the board so that you can take a look what you will learn that day. This overview will be helpful to guide you to understand which part we are learning and how all contents are related. During the lecture, you will have some time to solve questions on the board. If you prefer to do it as a group, you can certainly do that.

Grading:

Your total grade in this course will be determined by the following breakdown.

- Recitation (20% of Grade): See the recitation syllabus.
- 3 Midterms: 1st midterm -10%, 2nd midterm - 15%, 3rd midterm – 20%
- Final (35% of Grade): The final will be **cumulative** but mainly focus on what you've learned after the 3rd midterm.

In Detail,

Recitation:

Attending recitation is a very useful way to review the contents you have learned in class. Also, recitation grade takes 20% of your total score, so do not miss it. I will ask TA to briefly review the class material and mainly focus on doing group/individual activity such as solving numerous problem sets. I will design exams taking all the problem sets you have covered in recitation into account. Therefore, the problem sets in recitation is extremely important to get a good grade in this course. TA will explain other grading criteria (e.g., attendance, quizzes etc.) in recitation.

Homework?

There will be NO HOMEWORK! I don't want to keep putting pressure on you. However, we should keep in mind that math/statistics needs a lot of practice to get used to and eventually to get a good grade from this class.

All the practice will be done in class by group works and from recitation solving problem sets. If you have any questions about the problems, you are welcome to ask questions. Ask as many questions as you can!

Communication:

If you have questions, you can send me an email. If you are asking for what you can find the answer in the syllabus, I will not answer your email. However, if it is related to the class contents, I will try my best to reply as soon as possible.

Test Policy:

There will be no makeup exams. If you have to skip a certain exam perhaps due to family issues, please let me know in advance. You can take an early exam in such case. I cannot fix the exam date at this point because it depends how fast we cover the class material. I will inform you one or two weeks before the event.

The exam is not comprised of multiple-choice questions. This means that you need to show all the steps for deriving the answers. I will value more on the procedure rather than the final result. See below:

Grading Criteria:

- No (Insufficient) procedure & Incorrect Answer: 0% of the total credit
- No (Insufficient) procedure & Correct Answer: 20%
- Procedure with crucial mistakes (subjectively determined) & Incorrect Answer: 50% (same for correct answer)
- Procedure with minor mistakes (subjectively determined) & Incorrect Answer: 80% (same for correct answer)
- Correct procedure & Correct Answer: 100%

All exams and recitation quizzes will follow this grading rule. Exams will be very similar to the problem sets you have solved in recitation. So the tip for preparing exams is to pay attention to those materials!

Calculators:

You will not be allowed to use graphing calculators on any of this class's exams. On exam days, if you try to use a graphing calculator you will be asked to put it away. However, you can use general calculator during the exam.

Other Notes:

Student with Disabilities:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from disability services in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability services determine accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Center for Community N200.

Religious Observance Policy:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments, or required attendance. If you have a conflict, please contact me at the beginning of the term so we can make proper arrangements.

Classroom Behavior Policy:

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_cod

Honor Code:

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at: <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>. Discrimination & Harassment Policy The University of Colorado Policy on Sexual Harassment applies to all students, staff and faculty. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual attention. It can involve intimidation, threats, coercion, or promises or create an environment that is hostile or offensive. Harassment may occur between members of the same or opposite gender and between any combinations of members in the campus community: students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Harassment can occur anywhere on campus, including the classroom, the workplace, or a residence hall. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been sexually harassed should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/odh/>