

Introduction to Statistics with Computer Applications
ECON 3818
Spring 2012

Instructor: Catherine Massey
Office Location: Econ 307
Office Hours: TBA
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Webpage: CU Learn
Class Number and Section: 3818-010
Lecture Meeting Time: T TH 3:30-4:45
Meeting Place: BESC 185

Teaching Assistant: Dustin Frye **Email:** dustin.frye@colorado.edu

Recitation Times and Location:

ECON 3818-010 Introduction to Statistics with Computer Applications					
Massey	LECTURE	3:30-4:45	TTH	BESC 185	60
Frye	011	4:00-4:50	W	MUEN E114	20
Frye	012	5:00-5:50	W	MUEN E114	20
Frye	013	3:00-3:50	M	ECON 13	20

I. Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to statistics and econometrics. For many of you this may be your first course in statistics. As a result, one of the main goals of the course is to cover a broad range of concepts and techniques, as well as applications of these concepts. We will make use of Microsoft Excel at various points throughout the course.

On occasion, we will use a derivative or talk about the integral of a function. Derivatives and integrals will be reviewed shortly when their use becomes necessary. The Department of Economics requires this course of all its majors and minors. Students need have no previous knowledge of a spreadsheet but will learn to use the spreadsheet here.

II. Use Computers

Statistics is the art of formal persuasion using observed evidence. As you gain skill in organizing evidence so as to persuade a sophisticated audience, you will also better understand what it takes to convince yourself. Excel will allow you to create persuasive presentations with relative ease. The same software also invites easy manipulation of data, allowing you to explore and organize your evidence in an understandable manner. Excel will allow you to simulate a variety of evidence, and so gain insight into its nature.

III. Prerequisites

Course prerequisites are Economics 1000, or 2010 and 2020; and either Economics 1078 and 1088 or equivalent math courses. These prerequisites are strictly enforced.

IV. Text Book

Intro Stats, 3rd ed. by De Veaux, Velleman, and Bock (Published by Pearson, Addison-Wesley, 2009). Obtaining a copy of this book is highly recommended, though not required. The entire text is online with purchase of web site access. See <http://www.pearsoned.com/>

V. Grading

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to statistics as well as the tools economists need to succeed. The grading of this course is formatted to encourage understanding of the subjects as well as the ability to apply critical thinking skills.

The coursework is broken up as follows:

Option 1:

2 Exams	40%
Cumulative Final	30%
Recitation	10%
Computer Project	20%

NOTE: 30% of your grade will be determined by the final exam.

Evaluations:

There will be **three exams** given during the span of the course (not including a cumulative final exam). At the end of the course, your lowest midterm grade will be dropped. As such, there will be absolutely no make-up exams. You may use a graphing or scientific calculator on the exams. You may not use a cell phone as a calculator.

The final exam will be cumulative and is scheduled for **May 9th from 1:30pm-4pm**. If you have three or more final exams scheduled for the same day and you would like to reschedule your final exam, please let me know by February 29th.

*** I will provide you with a list of formulas for the exams. I will let you know before each exam which formulas will be provided.

Recitations:

Recitations are designed to expand upon the material learned in class through use of example problems. Recitations are extremely important for your success in this course. Recitations begin the second week of the semester and attendance is mandatory. Your recitation score is determined by the teaching assistant.

Any questions regarding recitation coursework, expectations and grading should be directed towards your recitation instructor. Your TA is responsible for his own grade book and classroom policies; therefore, any issue regarding recitation policies should be first directed to your TA.

Computer Project:

At the end of the semester, you will be required to submit a report in Excel demonstrating the ability to apply the skills you have learned over the span of the course. **Projects not submitted as excel files will not be graded.** Your completed project **must be submitted through CULearn** by the beginning of class on their due date. The tentative due date for the final project is May 3.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percentage Score
A	93-100
A-	90-92.99
B+	87-89.99
B	84-86.99
B-	80-83.99
C+	77-79.99
C	74-76.99
C-	70-73.99
D+	66-69.99
D	60-65.99
F	0-59.99

VI. Late Policy

Because I drop an exam, I will not be offering make-up examinations. Your final project is due by the beginning of class on its due date. Projects that are more than 24 hours late will not receive credit. If you are on a sports team and will be forced to miss exams due to your traveling schedule or if you have religious obligations, please contact me within the first month of class and we will arrange further accommodations.

VII. Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Lectures will only approximately follow the text. The text covers some topics that are not part of this course, and does not treat other topics that are part of the course. Therefore, only material covered in lecture will be on your exams. As a result, in order to know what you will be required to understand for exams, you must attend lecture.

Notes Policy: If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from a fellow classmate. **I do not provide my lecture notes** to students for any reason

and will not respond to email requests for them. For days we discuss excel, you can find the excel files on CULearn.

VIII. Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Breaches of this policy will result in a course grade of F and a reporting of the incident to academic affairs.

Additional Notes

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 may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Religious Observances

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. In this class, let me know, **in advance**, if you may have a conflict. Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

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 2 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>

Sexual Harassment

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 combination 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 Sexual Harassment (OSH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the OSH and the campus resources available to assist individuals who believe they have been sexually harassed can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment/>