Fall 2006 ECON 3818-300: Intro to Statistics with Computer Applications

Instructor: Nikolay Dobrinov

Economics Building

Room #414

 $(303)\ 492\text{-}7709\ (almost\ never\ pick\ up\ or\ listen\ to\ messages)$

ndobrinov@gmail.com, nikolay.dobrinov@colorado.edu (the best way to contact me, I am online almost all

the time)

Class website: We will use WEBCT for our class website. All materials will be posted there. As I know you will

be able to access the website on the first day of classes.

Class Schedule: Lectures: TR/ 12:30 - 1:45 / CLRE 207

Section	Time	Day	Place
312	4:00 - 4:50	Wed	DUAN G1B35
313	4:00 - 4:50	Thu	CHEM 133
314	10:00 - 10:50	Tue	CLRE 208

Office Hours: T/ 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. / ECON 414;

R/ after class. - 3:30 p.m. / ECON 414;

If none of these times works for you and you want to meet me talk to me or send me an email and

we will arrange to meet.

Textbook: Statistics for Business and Economics

David R. Anderson Dennis J. Sweeney Thomas A. Williams (ASW)

South-Western College Pub ISBN: 032420082X

Please note:

The ISBN provided above is for the 9^{th} edition of the book, which is pretty new and expensive. You do not need the 9^{th} edition and you also do not need the CD that comes with the 9^{th} edition. I will provide the data for all computer based exercises which we will use for practice. A very good option is to purchase the 8^{th} edition (2001-06-08 ISBN: 0324066716) as soon as possible so you have it available before the semester starts. Here is a link for good deals:

 $\underline{http://www.campusi.com/bookFind/asp/bookFindPriceLst.asp?prodId=0324066716}$

Software:

The software we will use to complete the PC based assignments is SAS. I know many of you have never used SAS, but do not get stressed. For each chapter where we have to use SAS to solve a problem I will provide detailed instructions on how to do all the steps in SAS, so you will be learning along the way. The reason I am not using EXCEL is that this is not what is required on the job market. Most companies and government institutions that hire graduates from economics and business use SAS to do their statistical analysis, and this is what they look for in the resumes. There is a very good and extremely detailed online book (http://www.math.wpi.edu/saspdf/), which you can either use online or print chapter by chapter. Also some other good books which you can use are:

The Little SAS Book (this is what I use) Lora Delwiche Susan Slaughter Publisher: SAS Publishing

Date published: 2005-11-30 ISBN: 1590477863

http://www.campusi.com/ta The Little SAS Book by Delwiche.htm

Applied Statistics and the SAS Programming Language (5th Edition)

Author: Ron P. Cody Jeffrey K. Smith

Publisher: Prentice Hall Date published: 2005-03-30

ISBN: 0131465325

http://www.campusi.com/bookFind/asp/bookFindPrefindLst.asp?srchBy=kwd&srchTxt=Applied+

<u>Statistics+and+the+SAS+Programming+Language</u>

Course

Objectives:

This course is an introduction to statistical and econometric methods for economics and business students. For most of you this will be your first course in statistics. For this reason two thirds of the course we will spend mastering the most fundamental concepts and techniques in statistics: descriptive stats; sampling data from population; inference about the population based on the data from the sample; basic probability techniques and most used probability distributions. The rest one third of the course will be a detailed introduction to regression, the widely used technique to study relationships between phenomena. Though all techniques taught in this course are general and applicable in all areas of study, most of the applications we will look at in this class will be related to solving problems in economics (most of the time) or business.

Prerequisites:

Most important prerequisites for this class are ECON1078 and ECON1088 or equivalent level math courses. This course does not have the level of technical difficulty of more advanced statistics and econometrics courses. However, the large range of topics covered can make this course challenging.

Attendance:

Attendance for this class is mandatory. Daily attendance will be taken in both class and recitation beginning the second class meeting and the first recitation. In order to receive a passing grade in the course, you must attend a minimum of 80% of the lectures and 80% of the recitations. A signing sheet will be circulated during each class and recitation meeting. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have signed in by the end of class and recitation.

Assignments:

There will be graded assignments supplementing each chapter. Most problems will be taken from the text. The graded assignments will be due each Thursday in class. When we start the class I will create a table where I will regularly post information on which assignment is to be submitted the coming Thursday. More detail on this when we start the course.

Recitations:

Recitations start second week of classes. Your TA will determine the contents and the rules for the recitation, including recitation grade. The recitations will mainly serve as times for you to practice and ask questions.

Exams:

You will have two midterms and a final examination. Second midterm and final will not be cumulative. We will discuss the format of the exams when we get closer to the first exam, but the format should be close to the graded assignments format. There will be no make ups for the exams. If you have serious reasons to not be able to come to the exam on the assigned date you need to contact me well in advance. You can take the exam in my office **before** the assigned in the schedule date, but not after. I WILL NOT GIVE EXAMS AFTER THE ASSIGNED DAY FOR NO REASON.

Grading:

Midterm Exam I: 25% (Sep 28, Thu, in class, Ch.1 - Ch.5) Midterm Exam II: (Nov 02, Thu, in class, Ch.6 – Ch.10) 25% Final Exam: 25%

(Dec 16, Sat, CLRE 207, 7:30 a.m. – 10 a.m., Ch.14 – Ch.16)

Graded Assignments: 25%

University of Colorado Policies (please read carefully):

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

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, {{insert your procedures here}} Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

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 have 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 polices at

http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_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/academics/honorcode/

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/