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Introduction to Statistics with Computer Applications
ECON 3818-100
Fall 2010

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Webpage: CU Learn
Class Number and Section: 3818-020
Meeting Time: MWF 3-3:50
Meeting Place: HUMN 1B80

Teaching Assistant: TBA   Email: TBA

Recitation Times and Location:

Section Number	Time	Day	Location

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. 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. If you are listed as not meeting the course prerequisites, you must show me that you have indeed met them.

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	30%
Cumulative Final	30%
Recitation	15%
Projects	15%
Regression Report	10%

Option 2:

2 Exams	45%
Cumulative Final	30%
Recitation	15%
Regression Report	10%

You are given 2 options for how your grade is calculated. You can choose not to complete the Excel Projects assigned to the class if you wish to. I will calculate your score at the end of the semester using both options. Whichever yields you the highest grade will be the grade you are assigned.

NOTE: In both grading options 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 **December 16 from 10:30-1pm.** If you have three or more final exams scheduled for the same day and you would like to reschedule your final exam, you are required to let me know by October 1.

*** 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. Your recitation score will be comprised of your scores on quizzes given during recitation.

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.

Projects:

There will be 3 excel projects due this semester. **Projects not submitted as excel files will not be graded.** You may be required to do some projects in groups. If this is the case, each group member must submit a copy of the finished project and indicate who they worked with in the project. Projects **must be submitted through CUlearn** by the beginning of class on their due date. For every day that the project is late, I will subtract 10% points off the top of your project grade. Projects that are more than 24 hours late will not receive credit.

Regression Report:

The regression report will be formulated similarly to your projects and completed in excel. The final project will be on regression analysis. This project will be more in depth than your previous excel projects and is due the same day as the final exam. The regression project counts for 10% of your overall grade.

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. Projects are due by the beginning of class on their due dates. For every day that the project is late, I will subtract 10% points off the top of your project grade. 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. However, 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 dishonestly 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 polices 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/