Spring 2007   **ECON 3818-200: Intro to Statistics with Computer Applications**

Instructor: Nikolay Dobrinov
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               Room #414
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Class website: We will use WEBCT/CU Learn for our class website. All materials will be posted there.

Class Schedule: Lectures: TR/ 5:00 – 6:15 / HALE 230
                Recitations: TA   to be determined (TBD)
                          Email: TBD

Section	Time	Day	Place
211	4:00 – 4:50	Thu	CHEM 133
212	12:00 – 12:50	Wed	MUEN D439
213	2:00 – 2:50	Wed	ECON 13

Office Hours: TBD;
                 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 9th edition of the book, which is pretty new and expensive. You do not need the 9th edition and you also do not need the CD that comes with the 9th 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 8th 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:

                 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+Statistics+and+the+SAS+Programming+Language

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. Understanding derivatives is necessary. 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 Tuesdays or Thursday in class. Please refer to the file "HWschedule.pdf", where I will regularly post due dates for each homework. Due dates depend on how fast we cover material in class, so I can not determine all due dates in the beginning of the semester. You will also receive regular emails with homework due dates. It is your responsibility to check your email. Each homework will be collected from every student, but for a given homework only certain problems or parts of problems will be graded. It is your responsibility to complete all problems within an assignment.
Recitations:	Recitations start second week of classes. Your TA will determine the contents and the rules for the recitation. The recitations will mainly serve as times for you to practice and ask questions.
Regression Project:	The regression project is a project that requires you to exercise your skills on techniques covered in ch.14, ch.15, and ch.16. We will discuss the project in more detail after the second midterm. You will be allowed to complete the project in groups of maximum 4 students, and consequently submit the assignment together. You can also work on the project alone. You will have to use SAS to complete the assignment.
	All files that you need for practice and for the graded assignment are posted on WEBCT/CU Learn in the folder " Ch.15 and Ch.16 Multiple Linear Regression / Homework". All directions and conditions are carefully explained in the file with the graded exercise, named "NFL or Unemployment ch.15_16". Read carefully.
	Take this project seriously. I will be more demanding when grading this project than when I am grading your SAS HWs. I will look at both technical approach, results and interpretation, as well as organization of report and writing style.
	Start working on the assignment earlier as it may take you a whole day or two to do the calculations and write a good report. A good time for a first meeting of each group will be probably at least two weeks before the end of the semester. Sit down and discuss what will be the question you want to study and how you will approach the available data.
	I will also require you to submit an electronic copy of your report.

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 and what you do in recitations. 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.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover only theoretical questions on ch.14, ch.15 and ch.16. Final Exam will be only 1 hour long. Your skills in doing regression and interpreting results will be tested with the "Regression Project".

Grading:

Midterm Exam I:	25%	(Feb 15, Thu, in class, Ch.1 – Ch.5)
Midterm Exam II:	25%	(Mar 22, Thu, in class, Ch.6 – Ch.10)
Final Exam:	10%	(May 8, Tue, HALE 230, 7:30 p.m. – 10 p.m., Ch.14 – Ch.16)
Regression Project	15%	(Due on the day of the Final Exam)
Graded Assignments:	25%	(Due dates in the file "HWschedule.pdf")

Tentative Schedule: What follows is a tentative schedule of material we will cover in class. It is possible that sometimes we fall a little behind, but roughly we will follow the timeline announced in this table.

ECON3818, Spring2007: Tentative Time-schedule

Date		We do:	Date		We do:	Date		We do:	
15-Jan	Mon	Martin Luther King Day	21-Feb	Wed		30-Mar	Fri	Spring Break	
16-Jan	Tue	Intro and Ch.1	22-Feb	Thu	ch.6	31-Mar	Sat		
17-Jan	Wed		23-Feb	Fri		1-Apr	Sun		
18-Jan	Thu	ch.2	24-Feb	Sat		2-Apr	Mon		
19-Jan	Fri		25-Feb	Sun		3-Apr	Tue	ch.14	
20-Jan	Sat		26-Feb	Mon		4-Apr	Wed		
21-Jan	Sun		27-Feb	Tue	ch.7	5-Apr	Thu	ch.14	
22-Jan	Mon	Labor Day	28-Feb	Wed		6-Apr	Fri		
23-Jan	Tue	ch.2 and ch.3	1-Mar	Thu	ch.7	7-Apr	Sat		
24-Jan	Wed		2-Mar	Fri		8-Apr	Sun		
25-Jan	Thu	ch.3	3-Mar	Sat		9-Apr	Mon		
26-Jan	Fri		4-Mar	Sun		10-Apr	Tue	ch.14	
27-Jan	Sat		5-Mar	Mon		11-Apr	Wed		
28-Jan	Sun		6-Mar	Tue	ch.8	12-Apr	Thu	ch.15	
29-Jan	Mon		7-Mar	Wed		13-Apr	Fri		
30-Jan	Tue	ch.3	8-Mar	Thu	ch.9	14-Apr	Sat		
31-Jan	Wed		9-Mar	Fri		15-Apr	Sun		
1-Feb	Thu	ch.4	10-Mar	Sat		16-Apr	Mon		
2-Feb	Fri		11-Mar	Sun		17-Apr	Tue	ch.15	
3-Feb	Sat		12-Mar	Mon		18-Apr	Wed		
4-Feb	Sun		13-Mar	Tue	ch.9	19-Apr	Thu	ch.15	
5-Feb	Mon		14-Mar	Wed		20-Apr	Fri		
6-Feb	Tue	ch.4	15-Mar	Thu	ch.9	21-Apr	Sat		
7-Feb	Wed		16-Mar	Fri		22-Apr	Sun		
8-Feb	Thu	ch.4 and ch.5	17-Mar	Sat		23-Apr	Mon		
9-Feb	Fri		18-Mar	Sun		24-Apr	Tue	ch.16	
10-Feb	Sat		19-Mar	Mon		25-Apr	Wed		
11-Feb	Sun		20-Mar	Tue	finish ch.10	26-Apr	Thu	ch.16	
12-Feb	Mon		21-Mar	Wed		27-Apr	Fri		
13-Feb	Tue	finish ch. 5	22-Mar	Thu	EXAM II	28-Apr	Sat		
14-Feb	Wed		23-Mar	Fri		29-Apr	Sun		
15-Feb	Thu	EXAM I	24-Mar	Sat		30-Apr	Mon		
16-Feb	Fri		25-Mar	Sun		1-May	Tue	ch.16	
17-Feb	Sat		26-Mar	Mon	Spring Break	2-May	Wed		
18-Feb	Sun		27-Mar	Tue	Spring Break	3-May	Thu	ch.16	
19-Feb	Mon		28-Mar	Wed	Spring Break	4-May	Fri		
20-Feb	Tue	ch.6	29-Mar	Thu	Spring Break	8-May	Tue	Final	7:30pm

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/policies/honor.html and 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/