

BOSTON COLLEGE  
Department of Economics

EC151.08/09  
Statistics  
Spring 2000  
T Th 9/12 @ Cushing 210

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This is an introductory course in statistics. The primary objective of this course is to learn the basic theory of statistics and its application to the real-life problems.

**Textbook:**

The following textbook is required:

Anderson, Sweeney and Williams: Essentials of Statistics for Business and Economics, 2E.

**Course Organization:**

The course will consist of problem reviews and lectures. In the beginning of each class, I will give you a quiz which is based on the previous lecture. Then a review of the quiz will be given immediately, followed by a lecture covering new material.

There will be a final exam in the end of the term, but there will be no mid-term exam. The underlying idea is that the numerous quizzes will replace the mid-term exam with lower measurement error of your true ability, and more importantly, with constant studying attitude. Missing a quiz results in a score of zero for that one, unless you have an authorized document such as a doctors note. Four lowest scores on quizzes will be exempted from the grading procedure. The number of exempted quizzes will be slightly lower if you miss classes (with a valid reason) more than a few times. There will be no make-up exams or quizzes. All quizzes and an exam are open-book, open-notes and open-everything, however, you have to work independently. I expect that most of the questions in the exam and quizzes will be numerical and quantitative.

**Grading Policy:**

Quizzes	60%	(four lowest scores will be dropped)
Final Exam	40%	

**Course Structure:**

The structure of the course will follow the textbook closely:

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Descriptive Statistics I: Tabular and Graphical Methods
- 3) Descriptive Statistics II: Numerical Methods
- 4) Introduction to Probability
- 5) Discrete Probability Distributions
- 6) Continuous Probability Distributions
- 7) Sampling and Sampling Distributions
- 8) Interval Estimation
- 9) Hypothesis Testing
- 10) Comparisons Involving Means
- 11) Comparisons Involving Proportions
- 12) Regression Analysis.

I may skip some sections in above chapters, which I will announce as I proceed.