Boston College, Department of Economics
EC151: STATISTICS
Spring 2013

Instructor: Anatoly Arlashin
Email: anatoly.arlashin@bc.edu
Office: Maloney Hall, Office 396
Office Hours: TBA
Time and Location: MWF 10AM, Fulton 423; MWF 11AM, Fulton 423

You will also be able to discuss concepts with your lab TA. Also, Connors Family Learning Center (in O’Neill) has tutors available for you to consult with.


Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to help you understand statistical concepts that are fundamental to econometric analysis. While there will be many mathematical concepts, much technical notation, and various statistical formulas used along the way, the course demands much more. You are expected to build your statistical intuition. You will be expected to solve statistical problems for the correct answer, explain the general principle behind the problem using technical notation, and be able to convincingly explain why a particular method works to someone who has relatively limited statistical knowledge.

Grading: Your course grade will be determined using the following grading scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lab (including lab assignments)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterms</td>
<td>20% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (cumulative)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Classroom Technology: Class announcements will be made via email. Syllabus and additional materials will be posted on the course website on Blackboard Vista. The Lab will also have a separate Blackboard website.

Mandatory Lab Sections: In addition to regular lectures, you will attend a lab once a week. The lab work and assignments will be incorporated into your final course grade.

In the lab, you will learn how to use STATA — a statistical software package — and apply the concepts learned in the lecture. Details on how to access STATA will be presented in the lab.

Problem Sets: Problem sets from class will be completed online using MyStatsLab. All questions will be automatically graded on the MyStatsLab system.
Exams: There will be two in-class exams on Wednesday, Feb 12th and Wednesday, March 19th. The comprehensive final exam is mandatory. The final exam date and time are assigned by BC and thus cannot be changed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Final exam date and time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MWF 10AM</td>
<td>Saturday, May 10th 9AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWF 11AM</td>
<td>Thursday, May 8th 9AM</td>
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All exams will be open book, but given time pressure, you may prefer to make just a small notecard with key formulas on it.

Examination Make-up Policy: Following policies will be strictly enforced:

1. To be sure you are not penalized for missing an exam, you must obtain my approval before the exam.
2. There will be NO make-up exams for either midterm. If you miss a midterm exam, the weight assigned to that exam will be distributed over the remaining exams.

Academic Integrity: Cheating on any exam will result in

1. an automatic failure in the course and
2. reporting the incident to the College of Art and Sciences as requested by the university.

See http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/stserv/academic/integrity.html for a full discussion of the university’s policies and procedures regarding academic integrity.

Accommodations for Learning Disabilities: If you have learning disabilities, you are strongly encouraged to request accommodations for this course. Exams have some time pressure. Please register with Kathy Duggan (Kathleen.duggan@bc.edu) Associate Director, Academic Support Services the Connors Family Learning Center (learning disabilities and ADHD) or Suzy Conway (suzy.conway@bc.edu), Assistant Dean for Students with Disabilities (all other disabilities). Advance notice and appropriate documentation are required for accommodations.