

**Boston College**  
Department of Economics

EC 151.05 --- Statistics  
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:00 a.m  
Fulton 115  
<http://www2.bc.edu/~mengj>

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**Textbook**

Essentials of Statistics for Business and Economics, Anderson, Sweeney & Williams, 3rd Edition (Southwestern Publishing, 2003)

**Course Organization and Expectation**

This is an introductory course in statistics. The primary goal is to make you familiar with the basics of probability and sampling theory. In this course, each section depends on the previous ones. So it is very important to keep up with the material. I expect you to come to every class, to read the text carefully and to work through the problem sets.

Joint work on problem sets is encouraged; however each student is expected to independently write up her/his own answers to be handed in. There will be 3 to 4 short quizzes, with dates to be announced in classes.

There will be 3 exams: two midterms and one comprehensive final exam. All exams will be closed notes and textbook. Both midterm exams will be given in class. The first midterm exam will be on **Friday, October 17, 2003** and the second one will be on **Wednesday, November 12, 2003**. **There will be no make-up exams or quizzes.** So please make sure you do not have a scheduling conflict with these dates. Your work on exams and quizzes is to be entirely your own. Be sure that you are familiar with the sections on "Academic Integrity" in College Policies and be aware that I take this most seriously.

**Grading Policy**

The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you do poorly on one midterm but consistently well on the other one, the final exam and the quizzes, the one poor exam will be discounted (but not completely ignored).

Problem Sets 10%

Quizzes 15%

Midterm Exam 1 20%

Midterm Exam 2 20%

Final Exam 35%

**Tentative Schedule for Topics and Exams**

Sep. 3	Quiz	
Sep. 5	Chapter 1	Data and Statistics
Sep. 8,10,12,15,17,19	Chapter 2,3	Descriptive Statistics
Sep. 22,24,26,29, Oct. 1	Chapter 4	Introduction to probability

Oct. 3	<b>Midterm Exam 1 (chaps. 1,2,3,4)</b>	
Oct. 6,8,10,15	Chapter 5	Discrete Probability Distribution
Oct. 20,22,24	Chapter 6	Continuous Probability Distribution
Oct. 27,29,31, Nov. 3	Chapter 7	Sampling and Sampling Distribution
Nov. 5,7,10	Chapter 8	Interval Estimation
Nov. 12	<b>Midterm Exam 2 (chaps. 5,6,7,8)</b>	
Nov. 14,17,19	Chapter 9	Hypothesis Testing continued
Nov. 24, Dec. 1,3,5	Chapter 12	Simple Linear Regression
Dec. 8	Review Session	
Dec. 18	<b>Final Exam</b>	

There could be slight changes of this schedule. If so, I will inform you at least one class ahead.