

BOSTON COLLEGE
Department of Economics

EC 151.04-Statistics
Fall, 2008
Campion Hall 200, MWF 1 pm

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Syllabus

Text: Newbold, Carson, Thorne: Statistics for Business and Economics, BC Edition.

Course Requirements: Midterm Exam I (20%) on **Oct. 8**
Midterm Exam II (30%) on **Nov. 5**
Final Exam (40%) on **Dec. 15, 12:30 PM**
Attendance, class participation and problem sets (10%)

Course Organization and Expectations:

This course offers an introduction to the field of statistics and its applications. It meets for three 50 min lectures per week. You are expected to read the text carefully, attend and participate in all classes, and work through the problem sets. The material in this course is hierarcial, so that you should know the previous material before coming to class. The best way to study for this course is to work through all the problems done in class and in the problem sets. Simply reading the book will not be enough to learn the material.

The problem sets will be handed out in class one week before they are due and are to be turned in on the due date in the beginning of the class. Late submissions will not be accepted. You may work on the problem sets in groups but cannot copy the work from someone else and have to turn in your own problem set. The problem sets will not be returned but solutions to problem sets will be handed out to you. It is useful to photocopy your problem set before submitting it so that later you can compare it with the solution I will provide. If you do not understand the solutions, you may come to office hours or schedule an appointment to see me.

Examinations will be given on the above published dates and you should note that all such exams are closed book, closed notes. The exams will test your understanding of the subject, not your memory skills, and additional materials will be provided to you during exams when necessary. Only non-graphing calculators are allowed for exams. The use of graphing calculators, cell-phones, PDAs, all types and generations of iPods, and other similar electronic devices is strictly NOT permitted during exams. Your work on exams must be entirely your own. You should get familiar with the academic integrity policy which can be found on the Boston College website at www.bc.edu/integrity.

There will be no make-up exams unless you present a verifiable medical reason (a note from your doctor) or a letter from the Dean. If you miss an exam and do not have a verifiable reason, you will get a 0% for that exam. If you do poorly on one midterm but consistently well on the other one and the final, the one poor exam will get less weight than written above and will not hurt your grade a lot.

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topics	Text Chapter
Sep. 3, 5, 8, 10	Descriptive Statistics	2, 3
Sep. 12, 15, 17, 19	Probability, Bayes' Theorem	4
Sep. 22, 24, 26, 29	Concept of a Probability Distribution: Discrete & Continuous	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2
Oct. 1, 3, 6	Probability Distributions: Binomial, Poisson, Normal	5.4, 5.6, 6.3, 6.4
Oct. 10, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24	Sampling, Confidence Intervals, Sample Size, Proportions, "t" distribution	7, 8, 9
Oct. 27, 29, 31, Nov. 3, 7	Hypothesis Testing (Single population)	10
Nov. 10, 12, 14	Hypothesis Testing (Two population parameters)	11
Nov. 17, 19, 21	Chi-Square Distribution, ANOVA	16, 17.1, 17.2
Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 3, 5, 8	Simple Linear Regression	12

Exam Dates

Oct. 8 Midterm Exam 1, **CHAPS. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5**

Nov. 5 Midterm Exam 2, **CHAPS. 6, 7, 8, 9**

Dec. 15 Final Exam