

**BOSTON COLLEGE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

EC 151.05  
Statistics  
Spring 2002  
M/W/F 12pm  
Fulton 220  
Course Web Site:

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**Course Description:**

This is an introductory course in statistics. The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to important statistical concepts and their applications. Students are expected to get familiar with basic statistical terminology, methodology and the application of basic statistical tools. The mathematical prerequisite is some knowledge of algebra.

**Textbook:**

Anderson, Sweeney and Williams (ASW), *Essentials of Statistics for Business and Economics* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). This is a required textbook for the course.

**Course Requirements:**

Problem Sets and Class Participation (10%)  
In - class Quizzes (15%)  
First Midterm (20%) on Feb.18<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm  
Second Midterm (20%) on Mar. 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm  
One Comprehensive Final (35%) on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm

Problem sets will be handed out during classes regularly. Some of the questions are computer exercises. Excel is the program that students are encouraged to use. Students may consult fellow students on problem sets but each student is responsible for writing his or her own answer. Homework would be collected at the beginning of the classes on due day. No late homework is accepted. There will be some short in class quizzes throughout the semester. Dates would be announced in class. The worst quiz score would be ignored in final grading.

This course is hierarchical, with each section dependent on the previous ones. Therefore, it is very important to keep up with the material in this course. Attendance is required.

All exams are cumulative but the emphasis is on the current material. **There will be no make-up exams.** Please make sure you have no scheduling conflict with the exam dates.

**Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to do their own work on problem sets, quizzes and exams. It is important that you make sure you are familiar with the sections on "Academic Honesty" in the Undergraduate Catalog and act accordingly.

## Schedule of Topics

I. Descriptive Statistics	Chapters 1-3
1. Graphical presentation of data and results for effective interpretation.	(1 lecture)
2. Measures of central tendency and dispersion and other methods of describing data, such as percentiles, quartiles, etc.	(2 lectures)
II. Probability and Distributions	Chapters 4-7
1. Computation of probability for simple and complex events	(3 lectures)
2. Discrete probability distribution (Binomial and Poisson distributions)	(4 lectures)
3. Continuous probability distribution (Uniform and Normal distributions)	(4 lectures)
4. Sampling distribution of sample means	(3 lectures)
III. Inferences based on estimation	Chapter 8
1. Large and small sample confidence interval estimation for means	(2 lectures)
2. Confidence interval estimation for proportions	(2 lectures)
3. Determination of confidence levels and sample size	(3 lectures)
IV. Inferences based on hypothesis testing	Chapter 9
1. Elements of hypothesis testing	(1 lecture)
2. Type I and II errors in hypothesis testing	(2 lectures)
3. Large and small sample tests of hypothesis for the population mean	(3 lectures)
4. Tests of hypotheses for population proportions	(3 lectures)
V. Regression	Chapter 12
1. Simple regression	(2 lectures)
2. Multiple regression	(1 lecture)
3. Testing hypothesis of regression coefficients	(2 lectures)