Contact Information

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Class: Business Statistics Fall 2014 (41000)

Course Homepage

The Chalk website is:

http://chalk.uchicago.edu

Here, you will find lecture notes, homework assignments, homework solutions, and all other relevant material.

Office Hours and Appointments

There are no regularly scheduled office hours during the quarter. Instead, please contact me and we can schedule an appointment. The easiest way to contact me is by email (listed above). I check my email regularly.

Lecture Notes, Textbooks, and other Course Material

All of the concepts we cover are in the lecture notes. The optional textbook for the class is:


Or the newest edition:


However, the textbook is optional and I will not assign homework problems from it. I will basically never refer to it in class. The lecture notes contain links to most all of the data sets and examples we discuss in class. The lecture notes are designed so students can “work along” while reviewing what we cover.
Throughout the class, we will use Microsoft Excel to organize data, graph data, and do some simple calculations.

Most of the calculations can be done in any computer software: Excel, Minitab, R, Matlab, and often even a pocket calculator. You may use the software of your choice but I will illustrate the results in Excel.

**Homework**

Homework assignments are given (basically) bi-weekly. All of the problems and data are available on the course website. There is no first class assignment. Students may work in groups (suggested size 2-3 members). I highly encourage students to work all problem sets on their own and then meet to discuss answers as a group.

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the following week’s lecture (exception: the first two week’s worth of homework is collected in week 3). Please hand in hard copies. In the event of absence, homework may be submitted by email after asking the instructor’s permission.

Homework is expected to be written up neatly with work shown and answers boxed. Please pay careful attention to instructions on what Excel output to turn in.

Late homework is not accepted. Assignments missed due to emergencies are dropped when grades are computed, provided the instructor is notified *before* the due date.

**Exams**

There are two exams:

*Midterm in Week 6*
*Final Exam in Finals Week*

Both exams are in-class and closed book. One 8.5 by 11 inch “cheat sheet” may be used for the midterm; both sides of the page may be used. Two 8.5 by 11 inch “cheat sheets” (again, both may be double sided) may be used for the final exam. Please bring a calculator to the exams. Sharing of calculators is *not* permitted. Devices capable of transmitting wireless signals may not be used as calculators.

Both exams are mandatory. Make up exams are provided *only* in case of extreme emergencies – conflicts due to recruiting and/or other classes do not qualify. Students are expected to take exams with their registered section (e.g., students registered for a Monday section must take their exam on a Monday). *If you know in advance you will have a conflict with either of the dates above, please tell me now.*
Course Grades, and Grading Policy

Grades are based on the following breakdown: **10% Homework, 35% Midterm, 55% Final Exam**

Please be aware that I will not ``drop the midterm.” Also, note that the school enforces a hard 3.33 GPA cap across all sections of a course taught by the same instructor in a given quarter. For example, one way I could satisfy this requirement is by assigning the top 35% of students an A, the next 55% a B, and the bottom 10% a C.

Re-grade Policy (important): Students may request a re-grade on homework assignments or exams. Requests must be made within 7 days of the assignment being returned and must be accompanied by a written statement explaining where the student believe the grading error(s) occurred. Please note the entire exam/assignment will be re-graded – errors in the student’s favor may be corrected as well (this may be waived in the case of obvious clerical errors).