Course Information for STAT:7200 “Linear Models”  
Fall 2020

Instructor
Dale Zimmerman, a.k.a. “Dr. Z,” 217 Schaeffer Hall, Office phone 5-0818, Home phone 351-0520, E-mail dale-zimmerman@uiowa.edu

Class Hours and Location
Until the Thanksgiving recess or circumstances dictate a change (whichever comes first), our course will meet in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 am – 12:50 pm, in E146 AJB. After the Thanksgiving recess, all UI courses, including ours, will be delivered virtually. At that time our class will continue to meet at the same times on Tuesdays and Thursdays for lectures, but via Zoom, rather than in a classroom.

Office Hours
Conducted virtually (on Zoom) at 1:00 – 3:00 pm Mondays and 1:00 – 3:00 pm Wednesdays, or by appointment. Just send Dr. Z an email indicating your specific requested meeting time and he will set up a Zoom meeting.

Department Information
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, 241 Schaeffer Hall, Phone 335-2082

Department Executive Officer
Professor Kung-Sik Chan, 241 SH, Phone 335-0712, E-mail kung-sik-chan@uiowa.edu

Lecture Notes/Text
Lecture notes for the course have recently been put into book form and will soon be published by Springer (they’re currently “in press”). Readings will be assigned from them. Copies of the book manuscript were made by a commercial copying service and may be billed to your student accounts. They are available from Margie in the departmental office. With one exception, the notes/book are self-contained, i.e., there is no need to do any reading outside of them. The exception is the material on matrix algebra useful for linear models; for this, frequent reference will be made to Matrix Algebra from a Statistician’s Perspective, by David A. Harville (Springer). Purchasing this book is recommended because it will be a good resource for relevant matrix algebra results over the course of your career as a student and statistician, but it is not required because no reading will be assigned from it.

Classroom Lecture Recording
Dr. Z’s classroom lectures will be recorded, in order to: (a) give students a chance to review materials at their own pace, (b) prepare the class as a whole to move to virtual instruction required after Thanksgiving (or sooner if needed), (c) allow students who are ill or quarantined to keep up or catch up with course material. Information on accessing the recorded lectures will be provided in class.

Exams
• 2 two-hour, in-class, midterm exams; the first will be given in class on October 8 and the second will be given in class on November 19. These two exams are “closed-book,”
except that Dr. Z will provide copies of Chapters 1–4 to each student at the beginning of each exam period. These copies may be used throughout the two exams.

- 1 final take-home exam, due at the end of our assigned final exam period. This exam will be distributed one week prior to the day of the final exam scheduled by the University. This exam is “open-book” but you are on your honor to communicate with nobody besides Dr. Z about it.

Homework
Written assignments are an essential component of the course. Assignments generally consist of about 10 exercises, some of which are lengthy, and will be given at intervals of approximately 10-14 days. Completed assignments should be turned in electronically (as a pdf attachment to an email to Dr. Z). Assignments that are due on a Tuesday or Thursday must be turned in by the beginning of class on the day they are due. Assignments that are due on any other day must be submitted by 5:00 pm that day. Note: If your assignment is handwritten and you scan it for submission, please ensure that your scan is readable! Unless prior arrangements are made, late homework will receive a score no higher than 50%. Students may work on homework problems together, provided that no outright plagiarism occurs. Dr. Z is more than willing to provide homework help during office hours and/or to give hints/guidance by email at any time.

Attendance
Attendance at lectures and participation in discussions are expected. Failure to attend class regularly will adversely affect your grade, and no help will be offered on homework problems requiring material in class that you miss (unless you have a valid excuse).

Grading
- Homework, 25%
- Midterm exams, 50% (25% each)
- Take-home final exam, 25%

A plus-minus grading system will be used. In the past, all students who have achieved a percentage of 50% or higher on exams have earned at least a B- grade, and all who have achieved a percentage of 75% or higher on exams have earned at least an A- grade.

Course Objectives
1. To provide a rigorous presentation of the theory underlying statistical applications of linear models (regression, ANOVA, BLUE, multiple comparisons, BLUP, variance component estimation, etc.).

2. To equip the Ph.D. student in Statistics (or related fields) to read journal articles and begin thesis research, possibly on some topic that overlaps with linear models.

Not a Course Objective
To analyze data or become familiar with “linear models methods” for data analysis and interpretation through the use of statistical computing packages.
Topics Considered

1. Matrix preliminaries, e.g., basic results on vector spaces, linear independence, transposes, ranks, inverses, traces, determinants, nonnegative definite and positive definite matrices, optimization of functions of many variables
2. Generalized inverses and systems of linear equations
3. Expectations, variances, and covariances of linear and quadratic forms
4. Types of linear models
5. Estimability and unbiasedness
6. Ordinary least squares for classical (fixed-effects, unconstrained) linear models: Gauss-Markov Theorem, reparameterizations, orthogonal projections, algebraic and geometric structure of the analysis of variance, partitioning the ANOVA
7. Constrained least squares estimation
8. Generalized least squares
9. Model misspecification and its consequences
10. Best linear unbiased prediction (BLUP), random and mixed linear models
11. Multivariate normal, noncentral chi-square, noncentral F and t distributions
12. Distributions of linear and quadratic forms; independence of quadratic forms; Cochran’s Theorem
13. Hypothesis testing, confidence intervals and regions, simultaneous confidence intervals and multiple comparisons
14. Estimation of variance components, including maximum likelihood and restricted maximum likelihood (REML) approaches
15. Empirical BLUE/BLUP

Administrative Home
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook
http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/index.shtml

Electronic Communication
University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their standard University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Students should check this account frequently. (Operations Manual, III.15.2. Scroll down to k.11.)
Academic Fraud
Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint
Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
The University of Iowa is committed to providing an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (which include but are not limited to mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related conditions). A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor’s office to make particular arrangements. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student, instructor, and SDS. See http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/ for more information.

Understanding Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment at http://www.uiowa.edu/~eod/policies/sexual-harassment-guide/index.html for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather
In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety web site, http://www.uiowa.edu/~pubsfty/intlinks.htm

Nondiscrimination in the Classroom
The University of Iowa is committed to making the classroom a respectful and inclusive space for all people irrespective of their gender, sexual, racial, religious or other identities. Toward this goal, students are invited to optionally share their preferred names and pronouns with their instructors and classmates. Expressions of hate and bigotry directed at individuals or identities are not acceptable. For more information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, diversity@uiowa.edu or visit diversity.uiowa.edu.
Expectations for Student Behavior Related to COVID-19

Students are expected to comply with University policies regarding appropriate classroom behavior as outlined in the Code of Student Life. This includes the policies and procedures that all students have agreed to regarding the Steps Forward for Fall 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Particularly, all students are required to wear a face covering when in a UI building, including a classroom. In addition, the density of seats in classrooms has been reduced; in some instances, this will allow 6 feet or more between students while other cases, it may be less. Regardless, wearing a face covering and maintaining as much distance as possible are vital to slowing the spread of COVID-19. In the event that a student disrupts the classroom environment through their failure to comply with the reasonable directive of an instructor or the University, the instructor has the authority to ask that the student immediately leave the space for the remainder of the class period. Additionally, the instructor is asked to report the incident to the Office of Student Accountability for the possibility of additional follow-up. Students who need a temporary alternative learning arrangement related to COVID-19 expectations should contact Student Disability Services arrangements/; +1 319 335-1462) (https://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/fall-2020/covid-19-temporary-learning-arrangement