

The University of Iowa
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
STAT:1010 (formerly 22S:002)
Statistics and Society
Spring 2015

Instructor:

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DEO: Dr. Joseph Lang, 241 Schaeffer Hall, 319-335-0712

Time and Location:

Lecture: MWF 1:30 – 2:20 pm LR2 Van Allen Hall

Course Goals and Objectives:

This course is intended to introduce students to fundamental concepts of statistics and to provide the students with skills that can be applied in their every day lives. Students will learn to understand and communicate results as well as to analyze and draw conclusions on their own.

Students will be required to perform some calculations by hand and using a calculator. Students will be expected to be able to perform these calculations or to ask for help in learning to do so.

Approved GE: Quantitative of Formal Reasoning

Course Communication:

Lecture notes and other class materials will be posted on ICON. Additionally, students need to check their university email account as communication may sometimes take place there.

Office Hours (or by appointment):

Monday 2:30 – 3:30 pm
Wednesday 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Thursday 10:00 – 11:00 am

Text:

Statistical Reasoning for Everyday Life, 4th edition by Bennett, Briggs, and Triola

Final Exam:

The time and date will be announced later in the semester.

Tentative Course Topics:

The course will roughly follow the layout of the class textbook although we will not go exactly in order. Certain topics may be skipped or condensed as time requires. I will try to communicate topics ahead of time so students can prepare.

Lecture / Reading:

Students should read assigned sections before attending lecture to increase their understanding. Which sections will be covered will be communicated through ICON/email/lecture. In case of absence, students are still responsible for the material covered and should get the notes in office hours or from a fellow student.

Weekly Discussions:

Attendance in discussion sections is important and is also part of your grade (see below). Experience has taught me that discussion sections are a great place for students to solidify their understanding of concepts that are first discussed in lectures. Use discussion sections to ask questions and practice tough concepts.

Grading Policy:

The course will be graded based on the following components:

Homework (20%) – Homework will be assigned on Fridays and due the following Friday at the beginning of class. Due to time constraints, the grader may grade only some of the problems. However, students are responsible for checking their answers and understanding all of the questions. Further, we reserve the right to deduct points for homework that is not professional (i.e. not stapled, sloppy, done out of order, etc.). Late homework will not be accepted, but your lowest score will be dropped.

Scheduled Quizzes (10%) – Short scheduled quizzes will be given in lecture. These will be announced no later than the previous lecture. There are no makeup quizzes, but your lowest score will be dropped.

Unscheduled Quizzes (5%) – Short unscheduled quizzes may periodically be given in lecture. There are no makeup quizzes, but your lowest score will be dropped.

Discussion (5%) – This will be discussed in your discussion sections by your TA and will be clearly presented on the discussion syllabus.

Exams (60%) – There will be 2 midterms and a final exam

Midterms (17.5% each) given on the dates below in lecture:

Exam 1: Friday, February 27, 1:30 – 2:20 pm (in class)

Exam 2: Friday, April 17, 1:30 – 2:20 pm (in class)

Final (25%) TBA

Attendance / Effort – You are expected to attend all lectures. Your attendance, participation, preparedness, work ethic, etc. may affect your grade.

	90 – 100	A
	80 – 90	B
As an approximate guide, grades will be given as:	70 – 80	C
	60 – 70	D
	Below 60	F

Plus and minus grades will be given as deemed appropriate.

* No make-up exams or quizzes will be given unless there is a University approved absence (see the [student handbook](#)). Documentation will be required for such absences.

Cheating Policy:

I take cheating very seriously and will handle it as such. Students are encouraged to study together and work together on homework, but all work you submit must be your own.

Resources for Additional Help:

- *Statistics Tutor Lab*: This is a free tutorial lab in University Library Commons, Room 1113 Red that provides extra help for students in introductory statistics courses. I will let you know once Spring semester hours are posted.

- *Private For-Pay Tutors*: The Statistics and Actuarial Science Department maintains a list of private tutors on their website
<http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/private-tutors>

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Important Policies and Procedures

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 Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu).

Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences ([Operations Manual, III.15.2](#), k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities

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. See <http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/> for more information.

Academic Honesty

All students taking CLAS courses have, in essence, agreed to the College's [Code of Academic Honesty](#): "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the [IOWA Challenge](#). I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

CLAS Final Examination Policies

The date and time of every final examination is announced by the Registrar generally by the tenth day of classes. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of the final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

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](#) 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 [Department of Public Safety website](#).