Learning statistics is like learning a language – you learn it best by using it actively.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Statistics
Fall 2014

STAT 226 Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G
Introduction to Business Statistics
Stat 226 Course Coordinator: Dr. Ulrike Genschel

Section C Instructor: Brenna Curley
Office: 3410 Snedecor Hall
Office Hours: TBA
E-mail: curleyb@iastate.edu

Time: TR 2:10 – 3:30 pm
Location: Science 0152

Course Description
The objective of this course is to introduce you to statistical analyses of data and to foundational ideas and concepts of descriptive and inferential statistics. The course will illustrate how, using representative data in a meaningful way, statistics provides the basis for making intelligent business decisions.

Course Objectives
At the metacognitive level:
- Monitor your own mindful and meaningful effort for learning. Develop habits of thinking relevant to the understanding and practice of statistics;
- Work effectively individually and with your peers to accomplish course-required tasks.

At the statistical level:
- Communicate statistical information effectively either formally (in writing) or verbally during classroom discussions;
- Understand what constitute data including common data structures and how to analyze data descriptively using graphical and numerical summaries’
- Distinguish between sample and population and statistic and parameter;
- Learn about the use of probability models in statistics’
- Learn what is meant by inferential statistics;
- Distinguish between descriptive and inferential statistics.

At the application level:
- Apply inferential procedures such as confidence intervals or hypothesis testing to real business data;
- Determine valid conclusions from the applied inferential methods;
- Learn how to describe a linear relationship between two quantitative variables’
- Understand how statistics can be used in your business field to make better decisions.

Required Text and Materials
Access to Statistics for Business: Decision Making and Analysis, Stine, Foster, Second Edition. Four copies of the text are on reserve in the Parks library. A calculator that is capable of adding, subtracting, multiplying and division.

Note: The 1st edition of the book can be used but instructors will only provide page references for the 2nd edition. It is your responsibility to account for any discrepancies between the 1st and the 2nd edition. You are responsible to ensure sufficient time to access a textbook. Failure to submit a homework assignment because you could not get access to a copy of the book is not a legitimate excuse.
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**Tentative topic schedule and Exam dates**

| Exam 1 | Thursday, October 2nd, 2014 | Ch. 1-4, 12-13 |
| Exam 2 | Thursday, November 6th, 2014 | Ch. 14.1, 15-16, |
| Final Exam** | Monday, December 15th, 2014 | Cumulative: 1-4, 6, 12-16, 19, 21-22 |

**The Final Exam is comprehensive.** Our Final Exam is scheduled from 12:00-2:00 pm on **Monday, December 15th, 2014. Final Exams cannot be taken early!**

**Extra Credit**

There is no extra credit available in this class. Assignments cannot be made up after deadlines.

**Course Expectations**

**Homework Assignments**

- You are expected to submit one homework assignment approximately every 1—2 weeks. Expect a total of 8—10 assignments. You can locate all the homework assignments under the Homework Assignment section on Blackboard.
- Some homework assignments may require free response answers in addition. These have to be submitted in Blackboard also. **Solutions written on paper or emailed to an instructor will not be graded.**
- For each homework assignment, you have:
  - 3 attempts to submit your answers to Blackboard for questions that graded automatically in Blackboard. Your best score will count towards your grade.
  - 1 attempt to submit your answers for all questions that require free responses.
- It is highly recommended that you download the pdf version and write down your solutions before submitting them online. Due dates for the weekly homework assignments are indicated on the Course Calendar and will be announced in class.
- All homework assignments have **firm deadlines.**
- We will drop the lowest scoring homework assignment. The scores are based on percentages.

**Reading Quizzes**

- At the end of most chapters, there will be a quiz over major concepts from the chapter. You may take any quiz as many times as you wish; however, your highest score will count towards the quiz portion of your grade. When appropriate quizzes will also be given on individual parts of a chapter.
- Instructors may also give **unannounced in-class quizzes** or **assign quiz points for class participation.** These quizzes cannot be made up or taken in advance.
- The maximum number of quiz points you can earn will be set at 80% of the number of quiz points offered. This allows you to miss up to 20% of the offered quiz points and still earn the maximum amount of quiz points possible.

**Midterms & Final Exam**

- Exams will be completed during the lecture periods on the assigned dates provided on this syllabus. Exam dates are also on the **Course Calendar.**
- If, for some legitimate reason, you cannot take the exam at the scheduled time and place with the rest of the class, then you need to **contact your instructor prior** to the scheduled exam time to make arrangements. There are no individual make-up exams for Stat 226.
- If an exam is missed for a legitimate (documentable) reason, a comprehensive make-up exam may be allowed given during the week before the final exam. A student is allowed to take the comprehensive make-up exam only at the discretion of the instructor and the course coordinator.
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**JMP**

JMP is statistical software that will be used for homework assignments. You are responsible for knowing how to use JMP software but can ask for help during office hours. There are also set of instructions under the JMP Information link on Blackboard.

A JMP and a Help Room are located in Snedecor Hall. 1205 Snedecor is tentatively scheduled to serve as the Stat 226 Help Room. Adjacent to this room will be the JMP Help Room in 1207 Snedecor. Be aware that the TA scheduled to hold office hour might be helping a student in the JMP Help room next door if you cannot find him/her in the Homework Help Room. A schedule with office hours will be posted at the end of the first week on Blackboard. Help will be provided for any questions related to the lecture material, homework problems and JMP. Questions are welcome but serious effort is expected before seeking help.

**Grading**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework Assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Total** 100%

To see your current grades go to the My Grades link on Blackboard. The grading scale will not be determined until after finals, but you may use the chart below as a conservative estimate of your letter grade based on your overall course percentage:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>90-93 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86 B</td>
<td>80-83 B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-76 C</td>
<td>70-73 C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-66 D</td>
<td>60-63 D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59-0 F</td>
<td>87-89 B+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Communication with the Instructor**

E-mail is the best way to reach me. I will reply to all e-mails within 24 hours during weekdays, and as soon as possible on weekends.

**Office Hours with the Instructor**

Office hours are meant for you to ask me questions regarding the course material and/or homework. Make use of office hours.

**SI (Supplemental Instruction)**

SI sessions will be available for Stat 226. Announcements will be made during the first 2 weeks of the semester.

**Tips for Student Success**

Research shows that “you can be as smart as you want,” but the amount you will learn depends on the effort you will invest. Students who successfully demonstrate mastery of the student learning outcomes in this class:

- Actively attend class and only miss class due to extenuating circumstances;
- Bring notes provided by instructor to class and take additional notes during lecture;
- Review lectures notes on their own and read recommended texts before completing reading quizzes and homework assignments;
- Complete all assignments;
- Keep a running list of questions and routinely ask them of selves, peers and the instructor;
- Actively practice and do statistics, that is work additional practice problems or rework practice problems from worksheets or homework assignments.
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Blackboard Learn for Students at ISU

General Help with Blackboard:
- Blackboard Help: FAQs, Searchable Topics, and Step-by-step Instructions
  - Brief Video Tutorials for Students (http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm)
- Video Tutorials at Lynda.com
  Lynda.com provides several dozen brief video clips to help students get up-to-speed in all of the most frequently used tools, features, and functions of Blackboard Learn. To access the tutorials and files, simply login to Lynda.com (www.lynda.com) with your Iowa State University NetID and password. Once you are on the Lynda.com site, look under the Software menu and select Blackboard.

Basic Troubleshooting (if Bb Learn is not working)
1. If you get an error message, check for Browser and Java Issues on your computer (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/elearning/?page_id=4786).
2. If you are unable to access course content or activities (e.g., Tests, Discussions, Assignments, etc.), contact your instructor.
3. Check general Technology Support for Students (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/elearning/?page_id=141).
4. Contact the Solution Center (http://www.it.iastate.edu/solution/) at 515-294-4000 or solution@iastate.edu.

Academic Misconduct
All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. Online courses are not exception. The Student Disciplinary Regulations (http://policy.iastate.edu/policy/SDR) will be followed in the event of academic misconduct. Depending on the act, a student could receive an F grade on the test/assignment, F grade for the course, and could be suspended or expelled from the University. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing attempt to help another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to each of the following acts when performed in any type of academic or academically related matter, exercise, or activity:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the act of representing directly or indirectly another person’s work as your own. It can involve presenting someone’s speech, wholly or partially, as your; quoting without acknowledging the true source of the quoted material; copying and handing in another person’s work with your name on it; and similar infractions. Even indirect quotations, paraphrasing, etc., can be considered plagiarism unless sources are properly cited. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and students could receive an F grade on the test/assignment or an F grade for the course. The Iowa State University policy for academic misconduct can be found in the Student Disciplinary Regulations.

Tendering of Information: Students may not give or sell their work to another person who plans to submit it as his or her own work. This includes giving their work to another student to be copied, giving someone answers to exam question during the exam, taking an exam and discussing its contents with students who will be taking the same exam, or giving or selling a term paper to another student.
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**Special Accommodations**

Iowa State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Sect 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please contact me within the first two weeks of the semester. Retroactive requests for accommodations will not be honored. Please have Disability Resources Office, located in Room 1076 on the main floor of the Student Services Building complete a SAAR form verifying your disability and specifying the accommodations you will need for this course. Their telephone number is 515-294-6624, TDD 294-6335. You will need to present this form to me.

**Student Disability Resources**
1076 Student Services Building
Ames, IA 50011-2222
**Phone:** 515 294-7220
**Fax:** 515 294-2397
**TTY:** 515 294-6635
**E-mail:** disabilityresources@iastate.edu
**Website:** [http://www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/](http://www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/)