

Introduction to Statistics

instructor: *Marcello Di Bello*
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time: July 1st, 2013 – August 2st, 2013
Monday through Friday
45 class hours
4 credit units

Data analysis

THE GATHERING, DISPLAY, AND
SUMMARY OF DATA;

Probability

THE LAWS OF CHANCE, IN
AND OUT OF THE CASINO;

Statistical inference

THE SCIENCE OF DRAWING
STATISTICAL CONCLUSIONS
FROM SPECIFIC DATA, USING A
KNOWLEDGE OF PROBABILITY.



OBJECTIVES AND FORMAT

This is a basic introduction to statistics. Emphasis is on the concepts rather than the computations. No mathematical background is needed, except high school algebra and willingness to think carefully. In this course, students will develop an understanding of the basic statistical concepts and tools, and they will appreciate the uses, misuses and limitations of statistical methods. There will be lectures from Monday to Thursday, and a discussion session every Friday.

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES

Students are expected to fulfill the following requirements:

- (1) Four homework assignments [60 % of the grade]
- (2) A final in-class exam [40 % of the grade]

Homework assignments and the final exam will be graded on a scale between 0 and 100.

The grade scale I shall adopt is as follows:

A+ = 100-95 A = 94-90 A- = 89-85 B+ = 84-80 B = 79-75
B- = 74-70 C+ = 69-65 C = 64-60 C- = 59-55 D = 54-50
Below 50 = F

COURSE MATERIALS

Required textbook is

D. Freeman, R. Pisani, and R. Purves, *Statistics*, 4th Edition, Northon & Company, Inc.

You may also want to consult

David J. Hand, *Statistics: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford UP.

L. Gonick and W. Smith, *The Cartoon Guide to Statistics*, Harper Perennial.

SCHEDULE READINGS		
PART 1: COLLECTION, DISPLAY AND ANALYSIS OF DATA		
Week 1	Topic	Readings
Mon	Experiment design	Textbook, chapters 1-2
Tue	Histograms	Textbook, chapter 3
Wed	Average and standard deviation	Textbook, chapter 4
Thu	Normal curve	Textbook, chapter 5
Fri	Section discussion	

Week 2	Topic	Readings
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri	Correlation [HW # 1 DUE] Correlation Regression Regression Section discussion	Textbook, chapters 8 Textbook, chapter 9 Textbook, chapter 10 Textbook, chapter 11-12
PART 2: PROBABILITY		
Week 3	Topic	Readings
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri	Probability basics [HW # 2 DUE] Binomial distribution Law of averages; expected value Central limit theorem Section discussion	Textbook, chapter 13-14 Textbook, chapter 15 Textbook, chapter 16-17 Textbook, chapter 18
PART 3: STATISTICAL INFERENCE		
Week 4	Topic	Readings
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri	Sampling [HW # 3 DUE] Confidence intervals Confidence intervals Statistical models Section discussion	Textbook, chapter 19-20 Textbook, chapter 21 Textbook, chapter 23 Textbook, chapter 24-15
Week 5 #	Topic	Readings
Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri	Hypothesis testing [HW # 4 DUE] Hypothesis testing Hypothesis testing The limits of statistics FINAL EXAM	Textbook, chapter 26 Textbook, chapter 27 Textbook, chapter 28 handout

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, falsifying identity and academic records, will not be tolerated. Students who are found to have committed any act of academic dishonesty will fail the class.