DSCI 232 - Business Statistics
Syllabus - Spring 2018

FACULTY
Dr. Jose V. Gavidia
Office: School of Business Beatty Center (BCTR) 335
Telephone: (843) 953 6523
E-mail: gavidiaj@cofc.edu

CLASS MEETINGS
MWF 1:00-1:50; MWF 2:00-2:50
Classroom: Tate Center for Entrepreneurship T130

OFFICE HOURS
Mondays and Wednesdays 3:30 - 5:30; Fridays 2:50-4:00.

COURSE MATERIALS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Advanced statistical analysis with applications in business and economics utilizing relevant computer software. Topics include business applications in descriptive and inferential statistics emphasizing selected topics such as simple and multiple regression, analysis of variance, time series analysis, and non-parametric techniques.

PREREQUISITES
MATH 104 - Elementary Statistics or MATH 250 - Statistical Methods I.
MATH 104 or 250 is a pre-requisite for DSCI 232. Before taking this course: all School of Business majors must earn a C- or better in MATH 104 or 250 to continue with a major in the School of Business. Prerequisites imply that students are able to work with standard deviations, z-scores, and probability distributions before they start taking this class.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>% time</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td>Review/Evaluation</td>
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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS LEARNING GOALS

- **COMMUNICATION SKILLS**: Students demonstrate the ability, via both written and spoken word, to effectively present, critique, and defend ideas in a cogent, persuasive manner.

- **QUANTITATIVE FLUENCY**: Students demonstrate competency in logical reasoning and data analysis skills.

- **GLOBAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY**: Students identify and define social, ethical, environmental and economic challenges at local, national and international levels. Students integrate knowledge and skills in addressing these issues.

- **INTELLECTUAL INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY**: Students demonstrate their resourcefulness and originality in addressing extemporaneous problems.

- **SYNTHESIS**: Students demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple disciplines incorporating learning from both classroom and non-classroom settings in the completion of complex and comprehensive tasks.

This class contributes heavily to the “quantitative fluency” learning goal of the School of Business. It is expected that students keep applying quantitative techniques throughout the program and in their professional careers.

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the analysis of data. The ability to summarize, interpret, analyze and manipulate data is a critical skill in a knowledge and information-based economy. Any professional needs to have the ability to use and handle data. This course will lay the foundation for developing such a skill. To this end, this class will first introduce the students to the most common methods of summarizing and presenting data (descriptive statistics). An understanding of how data is summarized is not only important for those wishing to analyze data but is also necessary for understanding the data analysis reported by others. Students in this course will also be introduced to hypothesis testing to substantiate opinions and/or judgments of phenomena of interest (inferential statistics). After taking this class students will demonstrate their ability to: 1. Compute and interpret sample mean and standard deviation 2. Build confidence intervals for the population mean, variance and proportion 3. Test hypotheses about population mean, variance and proportion 4. Test hypotheses comparing two population means/variances/proportions 5. Perform one-way analysis of variance 6. Estimate simple linear regressions 7. Estimate multiple regressions 8. Perform Chi-squared tests.

Class Policies

Exam Policy

Exams are your opportunity to score points by showing your knowledge, understanding, and skill. The primary purpose of exams is evaluation. I will assess your statistical skills by taking a representative sample of your knowledge. Therefore, your expected grade should be an unbiased measure of your level of knowledge only. This means that your grade does not reflect effort, capability, or your personal circumstances. Examinations can be of various formats, including multiple choice, problems, short answers, and essay questions. If a student arrives late to an exam or continues working after time is called, the exam will not be accepted for grading. Students cannot leave the classroom while taking an exam. Students are not allowed to use any outside materials or leave the classroom during the exams, unless specifically authorized by the instructor.

Finishing the exam within the allocated time is the responsibility of the student. Make a plan of how you will complete the exam within the allocated time. Answer easy questions first and get the points “in the bag”. Do not spend too much time working on a single question. If you cannot answer a question within a reasonable amount of time, move on and come back to it later if you have time.
All exams are to be taken at the scheduled times. No make-up exams will be given. A non-emergency visit to the doctor does not excuse missing an exam. Doctor visits should be scheduled out of class times. Failure to follow this policy will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam.

**Attendance Policy**

Since this is an interactive class with significant student participation, attendance to all class meetings is expected. *Students with more than three unexcused absences will be assigned a WA grade.*

**Important:** Do not schedule personal appointments, such as doctor visits or other meetings, during class times. *Non-emergency doctor visits are considered unexcused absences.* Students are responsible for all announcements and assignments are made in class and all course material distributed and covered, regardless of their presence or absence for any class. If you have to miss a class for an unavoidable reason, please arrange with a classmate to take notes for you.

*Excerpt from the CofC catalog:*

Because class attendance is crucial for any course, students are expected to attend all classes and laboratory meetings of each course in which they enroll. Instructors maintain the authority to determine how absences will be addressed, which should be detailed in their attendance policies. Participation in college-sponsored activities, where students are official representatives of the College of Charleston, may result in absence(s). Instructors will recognize absences in which students are official representatives of the College of Charleston (such as intercollegiate academic or athletic team competition, or academic program sanctioned research presentation or artistic performance) as excused. During the first week of classes, instructors will announce and distribute their attendance policies, including criteria to be used in determining excused absences. Instructors determine whether absences are excused or unexcused for the purposes of participation grades, in-class assignments, and laboratories. Regarding formal graded work (such as exams, presentations, papers), instructors will make “reasonable accommodations” when a student misses class for an event at which s/he is an official representative of the College of Charleston. Examples of reasonable accommodations might include: rescheduling an exam, altering presentation times, or flexibility in assignment submission dates. Students are required to submit documentation of their College representation related commitment from the appropriate College authority at least one week prior to the scheduled absence in order to be eligible for reasonable accommodations by the instructor. Regardless of any accommodation granted, students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives, requirements, and prerequisites as defined by the instructor and the College. Instructors ascertain whether both excused and unexcused absences count in determining the basis for a grade of “WA,” which stands for “withdrawn excessive absences” and is equivalent to a failing grade. If attendance is used for grading purposes, the instructor is responsible for keeping accurate attendance records. If a student has more than the maximum allowed absences as defined in the course syllabus, the professor may assign a “WA.” Instructors are required to submit an electronic “WA” form (located in MyCharleston faculty tab) to the Registrar on or before the last meeting day of the class. The Registrar will then send an email notification to the student. The student is responsible for keeping personal addresses and contact information current through the Office of the Registrar. All students, whether absent or not, are responsible for all information disseminated in the course.

**Classroom behavior**

The Classroom Code of Conduct (from the President’s Advisory Committee) covers specific principles of civil conduct expected in a college classroom:

- Turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices. Do not use computers for tasks unrelated to the class. Using the internet during class is rude, distracting to the professor and other students.
- Never leave during class unless you absolutely must. Leaving for a break and then returning is not acceptable.
- It is rude and unacceptable to talk with classmates while the professor (or another student who has the floor) is talking.
- Visible and noisy signs of restlessness are rude as well as disruptive to others. *(Student Handbook, pp. 58-59)*
College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration–working together without permission– is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others’ exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at: http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php.

Resources

Center for Student Learning

Center for Student Learning: I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning’s (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at http://csl.cofc.edu or call (843)953-5635.

Students with disabilities

If there is a student in the class who has a documented disability and has been approved to receive accommodations through the Center for Disability Services / SNAP, please come and discuss this with me during my office hours.

Studying tips

I will conduct this class with the rigor expected from an institution of higher education such as the College of Charleston. This course covers a substantial amount of material and will be conducted at a DEMANDING pace. Your goal and personal responsibility is to meet the learning objectives of this class. My role is to help you achieve your goal. Remember, I am your friend, not your adversary.

Students are expected to keep current with all readings and homework assignments. Do not postpone studying until before the exam. You should plan to spend on average 3 hours of studying outside the class for every hour spent in class. You are advised to take great care in compiling a detailed, clear set of notes on each topic covered in class and the assigned homework. Simply highlighting large portions of each chapter will not help you understand and retain the materials covered in the textbook. The only way to understand and retain the material is through proactive intellectual engagement, materialized in complete notes of lectures and assignments, and doing the examples and exercises.
Grading

There will be 4 exams and a take-home final project, which is 10% of the grade. Final grades will be assigned according to the following grading scale:

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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>90-93.99%</td>
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<td>86-89.99%</td>
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