GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Course Information

STAT 1051-10 Introduction to Business and Economic Statistics
FALL 2011

Lectures:  *Wednesdays 11:10AM – 12:25 PM at Funger 108
           *Fridays 11:10 AM – 12:25 PM at Funger 103

Instructor: Dr. Srinivasan Balaji, Assistant Professor

Office Address: Room #104
2140 Pennsylvania Avenue NW,
Telephone Number: **202-994-3383**
E-mail: balaji@gwu.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 4:00- 6:00 PM

Lab:  The class is divided into 5 sections (Stat1051-30 through Stat1051-34) of approximately 30 students each for lab sessions. Please make sure that you attend the lab for which you are enrolled. The lab sessions will be conducted by the respective TA’s who will also administer the quizzes during the lab.

TA Information:

TA for Sections 30, 33 and 34: Swetha Valluri (svalluri@resecon.umass.edu)
TA for sections 31 and 31: Quan Zou (qzou@gwmail.gwu.edu)

Course Description

The course will cover the basics of Statistics, Probability and their applications in the Business and Economic statistics. We will mostly cover from Chapters 1 to 10 in the text with the exception of a few sections. The main topics to be covered include Descriptive Statistics for univariate and bivariate data, probability and random variables, Binomial and normal distributions, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing, correlation and regression.

Note: You will also need a calculator for the course. Please do not use your phone as calculator.

Software: SPSS for Windows, Version 17.0 or 18.0 (We will be using the software for a Project and for some problems. However you can use an alternate statistical package including Excel.)

Prerequisites
The course does not require any background in Calculus. Basic knowledge of Algebra and Arithmetic are sufficient.

Quizzes and Exams
Homework problems will be assigned for the entire course and you are expected to work through the problems every week based on the materials covered for that week. Almost every week two homework problems will be assigned (based on the material covered for that week) and you are expected to hand-in the problems during the lab in the following week. Those two problems will be graded. There will be a 15 to 20 minute quiz during each lab, based on the topics covered in the previous week. The quizzes will also be graded and will count towards the final grade. The lowest quiz score/homework score will be dropped. There will be a closed book midterm and a Final exam.

In addition to the above quizzes there will be Chapter quizzes after the completion of each Chapter. These will be blackboard multiple choice quizzes.

There will be a four pop quizzes throughout the course and couple of the lowest scores would be dropped.

There will be no makeup quizzes or exams unless there is a strongly convincing medical or family emergency.

There will be an SPSS project consisting of a few problems, where you will be expected to use the SPSS software (or an equivalent Statistical package) to do the problems.

Midterm Exam: Friday, October 14, 2011
Final Exam: During the final exam week (Exact date will be announced soon)

Grading Policy
Final grade is computed as follows:
Quizzes and Homework: 25%
Chapter Quizzes: 10%
Pop Quizzes: 5%
SPSS Project: 5%
Midterm Exam: 25%
Final Exam: 30%
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
At the end of the semester you should be able to
--apply laws of probability
--construct and interpret large-sample and small-sample confidence intervals
--evaluate evidence for and against hypotheses using statistical tests
--find the least-squares equation for simple linear regression and assess the utility of the model

CLASS POLICY
Attendance is expected for all the classes though not mandatory. Please switch off your cell phones and laptops.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states:: “Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, taking credit for the work of others without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” For the remainder of the code, see: http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM
DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)
Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services office at 202-994-8250 in the Marvin Center, Suite 242, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information please refer to: http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (UCC) 202-994-5300
The University Counseling Center (UCC) offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career, and study skills problems. Services for students include:
- crisis and emergency mental health consultations
- confidential assessment, counseling services (individual and small group), and referrals
  http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices

SECURITY
In the case of an emergency, if at all possible, the class should shelter in place. If the building that the class is in is affected, follow the evacuation procedures for the building. After evacuation, seek shelter at a predetermined rendezvous location.

Note: Stat 1051, 1053, 1091, 1111 and 1127 are similar courses and credit for only one of these courses can be given. Please contact me for further details.