

University of Waterloo
Department of Economics
Econ 221 – Section 1
Statistics for Economists
Course Outline – Spring 2011

Instructor: Pirapa Tharmalingam
Class: 6:00PM - 6:50PM TWTH RCH105
Office: HH105
Office Hours: 7:50PM – 8:50PM TWTH or by appointment
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Overview: This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental statistical methods used in Economics. A problem solving approach will be used to help students develop analytical and quantitative skills required to tackle economic problems with statistical data.

Required text: McClave, J.M., Benson, P. G. , Sincich, T. Statistics for Business and Economics (9th, 10th or 11th ed.) Pearson Publishing. Supplementary material will be given during the course, if and when necessary.

Course evaluation: There will be three (3) assignments (30%), two (2) midterms (30%) and a Final exam (40%). Mid-terms will cover sections of the material up to the mid-term time but the final exam will cover the entire course.

Notes:

Mid- term exam will be written in class. There will be no make up for a missed mid-term exam. If a valid documentation is provided for a missed mid-term, the weight will be shifted to the final exam.

Please note the following dates. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Important Dates

Assignment 1 - May 26
Midterm 1 - June 09
Assignment 2 - June 26
Midterm 2 - July 07
Assignment 3 - July 28

A tentative lecture plan is given below. This is subject to change depending on the class progress. Students are encouraged to practice all odd-numbered, end-of-chapter problems. Solutions will be put in reserve at Dana Porter Library

Topic	Chapter (10th ed.)
Introduction	1
Descriptive Statistics	2
Probability Theory	3
Random Variables	4
Inferential Statistics	5 Omit 5.4 - 5.7
Inferential Statistics	6 Omit 6.5, 6.6
Inferential Statistics	7 Omit 7.3 - 7.5
Simple Linear Regression	10
Multiple Linear Regression	11 Omit 11.5 - 11.12

“Note on avoidance of academic offences: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offence, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>). If you need help in learning how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your TA or course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.” “Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>.” “How to Avoid Plagiarism and Other Written Offences: A Guide for Students and Instructors” - To <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term