

The University of Iowa  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science  
**STAT:1010**  
**Statistics and Society**  
Spring 2013

**Instructor:**

Rhonda DeCook  
211 Schaeffer Hall, 335-3249  
rhonda-decook@uiowa.edu

**DEO:** Dr. Luke Tierney, 241 Schaeffer Hall, 319-335-0712

**Time and Location:**

*Lecture:* MWF 1:30-2:20pm LR2 VAN

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

This course is intended to introduce the student to the fundamental concepts of statistics, as well as, provide the student with reasoning skills that can be applied to statistical information that may be encountered on a daily basis. Students should learn how to draw conclusions from analyses and also communicate analysis results.

We may also learn how to do some analyses using the statistical software package *Minitab*. *Minitab* is available in the campus computer labs and at <http://virtualdesktop.uiowa.edu>. Hand computation will be stressed, however.

*Approved GE:* Quantitative or Formal Reasoning

**Course Home Website (we will also use ICON):**

<http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/~rdecook/stat1010/stat1010.html>

**Office Hours** (or by appointment):

Wednesday 11am - 12pm (noon)  
Thursday 2pm - 3pm  
Friday 9:30am - 10:30am

**Text:**

*Statistical Reasoning for Everyday Life, 3rd edition* by Bennett, Briggs, and Triola.

**Final Exam:** To be announced.

## Tentative Course Topics (in roughly this order):

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Sampling Techniques, & Types of Studies	1
Measurement, Data Types, & Dealing with Errors	2
Visual Displays of Data, Statistical Graphics	3
Summary Statistics & Shapes of Distributions	4
Probability	6
Normal Distribution	5
Sampling Distributions	8
Inference for Population Mean(s)	8, 9, 10
Inference for Population Proportion(s)	8, 9
Inference for Two-way Contingency Tables	10
Correlation and Regression	7
Other topics (if time)	

### Lecture/Reading:

Students should read material prior to lecture. In the case of an absence, students are responsible for the material covered and must get the notes from a fellow student.

We will *not* cover all sections of each chapter. Please focus your readings on the material that was covered in class.

### Weekly Discussions:

Attendance at Discussion is important. Quizzes may be given during this time period, and worksheets for extra practice may also be used. Quiz make-ups will not be given.

### Grading Policy:

Assessment in this course will be based on the following components:

- **Homework (10%)** - Assigned on a Friday and due the following Friday at the beginning of class. Due to time constraints, the grader may grade only some of the assigned questions, but you are responsible for understanding all questions. I will not accept late homework, but will instead throw-out your lowest homework score. The grader and myself reserve the right to **deduct points** if homework does not appear professional, neatly written, and easily handled (i.e. stapled, problems done in order, etc.). We may also have a short project worth the equivalent of 1 homework assignment during the semester.
- **Scheduled Quizzes\* (10%)** - Short scheduled quizzes will be given in lecture. There are no quiz make-ups, but I will instead throw-out your lowest scheduled quiz score.
- **Unscheduled Quizzes\* (5%)** - Short unscheduled quizzes will be given in lecture. There are no quiz make-ups, but I will instead throw-out your lowest unscheduled quiz score.

- **Discussion (5%)** - Your TA will evaluate you via attendance, unannounced discussion quizzes, preparedness, participation, etc. in your discussion sections. *Make sure you are clear about your TA's policies and expectations regarding the discussion grade.*
- **Exams\* (70%)** - There will be 2 midterm exams and a final exam:
  - Midterms (20% each) given on the dates listed below in class:
    - Exam 1: Friday, February 22, 1:30-2:20pm
    - Exam 2: Friday, April 12, 1:30-2:20pm
  - The Final (30%) TBA.
- **Attendance/Effort** - You are expected to attend all lectures in their entirety. Your attendance, participation, preparedness, work ethic, etc. may affect your grade.

	90-100	A
	80-90	B
As an approximate guide, grades will be given as:	70-80	C
	60-70	D
	Below 60	F

Plus and minus grades will be given as deemed appropriate.

\*No make-up exams or quizzes will be given unless there is an absence due to unavoidable circumstances as stated by University policy (documentation will be required in such a case). Missed exams and quizzes will receive a score of 0.

### Resources for Additional Help:

- *Statistics Tutorial Lab*: There is a *free* statistics tutorial lab in room 202 Communications Center. During available times, a knowledgeable person will be present to assist students. Hours of the lab can be found at

*<http://www.stat.uowa.edu/courses/tutorial-lab.html>*

- *Private For-Pay Tutors*: The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science maintains a list of private tutors at

*<http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/courses/tutors.html>*

### Electronic Communication :

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their standard University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Students should check this account frequently. (Operations Manual, III.15.2. Scroll down to k.11.)

**Administrative Home of the Course:**

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed in 120 Schaeffer Hall or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook:

<http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>

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**Academic Honesty:**

All CLAS students have, in essence, agreed to the College's Code of Academic Honesty: "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the IOWA Challenge. I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

**Making a Suggestion or a Complaint :**

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

**Accommodations for Disabilities :**

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. [www.uiowa.edu/~sds/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/)

**Understanding Sexual Harassment :**

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

**CLAS Final Examination Policies:**

The final examination schedule for each class is announced around the fifth week of the semester by the Registrar. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the dates and times of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site.

**Reacting Safely to Severe Weather :**

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Department of Public Safety website.