SYLLABUS

STATISTICS FOR ENGINEERS: EE 517
Spring 2015

Spring 2015
Lecture: Friday 2:00 - 4:50 pm
email: kosko@usc.edu
voicemail: (213) 740 - 6242

Course Summary: The course presents modern statistics with engineering applications. Emphasis is on statistical reasoning. Each student must develop and present a novel application of statistical multiple regression—on-site attendance is mandatory.


COURSE OUTLINE

JAN 16 Overview of statistics. Probability review.
JAN 23 Sampling distributions.
JAN 30 More sampling distributions. Point estimation.
FEB 6 Confidence intervals.
FEB 13 Hypothesis testing.
FEB 20 MIDTERM I. Tests for probability densities. Contingency tables.
MAR 6 Sequential tests. Linear regression. Heteroscedasticity.
MAR 13 Multiple regression. Multicollinearity diagnostics.
MAR 20 No class: Spring Break.
MAR 27 Stepwise regression. Statistical process control charts.
APR 3 MIDTERM II. Other regression types. ANOVA
APR 17 Hierarchical Bayes and Gibbs samplers. Nonparametric/robust tools.
APR 24 Class projects I—extended session. Mandatory attendance.
MAY 1 Class projects II—extended session. Mandatory attendance.
GRADING PROCEDURE

Summary: Class grade depends on two midterm exams and a final project. Homework problems are optional extra credit.


2. Homework. Checked and recorded. Not graded. A perfect set of worked homework problems can earn 10 points. Lesser homework sets earn fewer points. Grade stays as is if only some homework turned in. How much homework counts for how many points lies at the discretion of the instructor and teaching assistant. Students may discuss the homework problems among themselves but each student must work his or her own problems. Cheating warrants a course grade of F.

3. Project. Well prepared and presented approved project that demonstrates a novel application of statistics—but only after performing satisfactorily on both midterms. The project counts as the final exam and is worth 50 points. Exceptional projects can earn an automatic course grade of A. Hence: Project excellence trumps all else. Projects must have the instructor’s written approval. Failure to present a project on schedule results in automatic course grade of F. Students who perform badly on both midterms (such as scoring a standard deviation below the class mean on the second midterm) will not qualify for a project and so will have a course grade of F. Project evaluation is at the sole discretion of the instructor. Attendance and participation during the project-presentation session are mandatory.

4. Course Grade. 100 points possible in course.

   A  if  90 - 100
   B  if  80 - 89
   C  if  70 - 79
   D  if  60 - 69
   F  if  0 - 59

5. Cheating. Not tolerated. Common errors in homework and exams can count as written evidence of cheating. Penalty ranges from F on exam to F in course to recommended expulsion.
6. Academic Conduct
Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity http://equity.usc.edu or to the Department of Public Safety http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us. This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/ provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage http://sarc.usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

7. Support Systems
A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.