SYLLABUS

EE 517: STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS FOR ENGINEERS
Spring 2021

Spring 2021
Lecture: Friday 3:00 - 6:50 pm
email: kosko@usc.edu
voicemail: (213) 740 - 6242

Professor Bart Kosko
Office: EEB 438
Hours: Wednesday 4 - 6
Friday: after class

Course Summary: The course presents modern statistics with engineering applications from signal processing to machine learning. Emphasis is on statistical reasoning. Each student team must develop and present a novel (approved) application of statistics.


COURSE OUTLINE

JAN 15 Overview of statistics. Probability review.
JAN 22 Sampling distributions. Limit theorems. Random sampling
JAN 29 More sampling distributions. Point estimation.
FEB 5 Consistency of sample covariance. Confidence intervals.
FEB 12 Hypothesis testing. Bootstrap techniques.
FEB 19 MIDTERM I. Tests for probability densities. Contingency tables.
MAR 5 Sequential tests. Linear and neural regression. Heteroscedasticity.
MAR 12 No Class: Wellness day.
MAR 19 Multiple regression. Multicollinearity diagnostics. Neural classifiers.
MAR 26 Ridge/Lasso regression. Stepwise regression. Statistical process control.
APR 2 MIDTERM II. Logistic and multinomial regression. ANOVA.
APR 16 EM and GMMs. Hierarchical Bayes and Gibbs samplers.
APR 23 Projects: Mandatory attendance. Extended session.
APR 30 No Class: Wellness day.
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.

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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](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](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](http://equity.usc.edu) or to the *Department of Public Safety* [http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us](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/](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/) provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage [http://sarc.usc.edu](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](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](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](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.