

STA 3024 Section 7459

Introduction to Statistics 2 Spring 2011

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| Meeting Time and Location | MWF 8th period (3:00–3:50 p.m.) Norman 137 | |
| Course Website | http://www.stat.ufl.edu/~dksparks/sta3024 | |
| Instructor | Doug Sparks Griffin-Floyd 218 dksparks@stat.ufl.edu | Office Hours M 9th, T/R 4th, or by appointment |
| TAs | Long Zhang McCarty C 427 longzhang@stat.ufl.edu | Yeun Ji Jung McCarty C 401 snow0907@stat.ufl.edu |

Course Description and Objectives

STA 3024 is a second course in statistics that applies tools from STA 2023 to develop a variety of statistical methods that can be used to make decisions with data in the real world. This course is intended to be accessible to students without a mathematical background, as no concepts beyond basic algebra are required. The following topics will be covered:

- Contingency tables and the chi-squared test
- Analysis of variance in both one-way and two-way layouts
- Regression, with an emphasis on inference
- Nonparametric methods

Since this course builds directly on material from STA 2023, concepts from that course will be briefly reviewed as needed.

Textbook

We will use all 15 chapters of *Statistics: The Art and Science of Learning from Data*, by Alan Agresti and Chris Franklin, Prentice Hall, 2008. The first edition (2007) will also work, but the chapters, examples, and homework problems might be numbered differently. Although the textbook will not be used for any graded assignments or required readings, you will still find it useful as a source of extra problems and as a reference for additional information or alternative explanations.

Lecture Notes

I will post the lecture notes for each chapter on the course website before we start them. You can print these out and bring them to class to save yourself some writing. However, the notes posted online will be incomplete, so you will have to come to class to fill in the blank sections. If you miss a day of class, please try to get the notes from a friend (or a stranger) before you try asking me. Obviously you are free to ignore the posted notes if you prefer to take notes a different way.

Be aware that the pre-posted notes will not be a word-for-word transcript of exactly what we discuss in class. You will be responsible for all of the material that we cover in class, whether it is contained in the pre-posted notes or not. (However, you will not be responsible for anything not directly covered in class, like sections of the textbook that we skip.)

Exams

Four closed-book, multiple-choice, non-cumulative exams will be given during the normal class time on the following four dates:

- Wednesday, February 9
- Wednesday, March 2
- Wednesday, March 30
- Wednesday, April 20

We will not use our university-appointed exam period during exam week for anything.

If you are unable to take an exam due to conflict or illness, you must contact me as soon as possible to discuss your options. Valid documentation will be required for any make-ups.

Homework

A few reasonably short homework assignments will be posted to the course website. The due date for each assignment will be announced when it is posted. Homework assignments might be written, online, or some combination of the two. You may work together on the assignments, but simply copying another student's paper is considered cheating and will be dealt with accordingly.

Late assignments will be accepted but penalized. Assignments submitted within four class periods of the due date will count for 80% credit. Assignments submitted after that will count for 60% credit.

I will also post a list of suggested problems from the textbook. These problems will not be collected, but they are a good way to help yourself learn the material.

Grading

Your semester grade will be calculated as follows:

| Source | Points | Points | Percent | Grade | |
|-------------|------------|--------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Exam 1 | 100 points | ≈ 17% | 527–600 | 87.8–100 | A 4.00 |
| Exam 2 | 100 points | ≈ 17% | 507–526 | 84.5–87.7 | A– 3.67 |
| Exam 3 | 100 points | ≈ 17% | 487–506 | 81.2–84.3 | B+ 3.33 |
| Exam 4 | 100 points | ≈ 17% | 467–486 | 77.8–81.0 | B 3.00 |
| Assignments | 200 points | ≈ 33% | 447–466 | 74.5–77.7 | B– 2.67 |
| Total | 600 points | | 427–446 | 71.2–74.3 | C+ 2.33 |
| | | | 387–426 | 64.5–71.0 | C 2.00 |
| | | | 367–386 | 61.2–64.3 | C– 1.67 |
| | | | 327–366 | 54.5–61.0 | D 1.00 |
| | | | 0–326 | 0–54.3 | E 0.00 |

I have calibrated the grading scale to guarantee that you will earn at least as many grade points for the course as you would have earned under the usual grading scale before the implementation of minus grades.

If grades for the class as a whole are lower than expected at the end of the semester, I might change the grading scale to something more favorable than the scale shown above. If grades for the class as a whole are higher than expected at the end of the semester, the scale will not change.

In compliance with UF Statistics Department policy, I will not give grades of D+ or D–.

Attendance

Attendance is not required (except on exam days), but it is very strongly recommended.

E-Mail Policies

This is a large class, so I get a lot of emails. I will make every effort to respond to emails within 24 hours unless I am out of town, sick, or otherwise incapacitated. However, please remember the following two things:

- If you have a question that will take longer than a few sentences to answer, or if you have several questions, then you probably need to come see me in person instead.
- You will not be the only person with a question the night before an exam or assignment due date. I will do the best I can to answer emails at these times, but I can't make any guarantees. Avoid waiting until the last minute.

Calculators

For exams and homework assignments, you will need a calculator that can at least do arithmetic and square roots. Any scientific or graphing calculator will work as well. (If it was fine for STA 2023, it will be fine for this course.) Please be aware that saving notes into a calculator and accessing them during an exam is considered cheating and will be dealt with accordingly.

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete grade will only be given under extraordinarily extenuating circumstances that prevent the student from completing the course requirements. Having a failing grade in the course is not by itself an extraordinarily extenuating circumstance.

Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office, who will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to me privately as soon as possible.

Privacy Policies

Student records are confidential. Only information designated as UF directory information may be released without your written consent. This includes requests from parents or anyone else who contacts me about your performance in the class.

Academic Honesty

All students are required to abide by UF's academic honesty guidelines. For students in this course, the relevant portions can be summarized as follows: Do not cheat.