

Social Sciences 2J03, Introduction to Statistics: Course Outline

L. Magee

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instructor: Lonnie Magee, office: KTH-402, phone: 905 525-9140 ext.23805
email: magee@mcmaster.ca
there also will be a Teaching Assistant email contact
web sites: the main source of information will be *Avenue to Learn*
office hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:30
textbook: *The Basic Practice of Statistics*, fifth edition, by D.S. Moore

Grades and Dates

The final grade will be computed as follows:

- Two assignments worth 5% each:
 1. distributed on January 25, due February 1
 2. distributed on March 1, due March 8
- Two midterm tests (during class time, location to be announced):
 1. Midterm Test #1 on February 11
 2. Midterm Test #2 on March 20

Each midterm test is worth 20% of the final grade.

- A three-hour final exam during the April final exam period, worth 50% of the final grade

Topic Coverage

- data description and normal distributions (chapters 1, 2 and 3)
- relationships between variables (chapters 4 and 5)
- samples and experiments (chapters 8 and 9)
- probability and sampling distributions (chapters 10 and 11)
- inference: confidence intervals and tests of significance (chapters 14 and 15)
- inference about a population mean and comparing two means (chapters 17 and 18)
- inference about a population proportion (chapter 19)
- inference for two categorical variables - the chi-square test (chapter 22)

Calculating and Computing

The use of a standard McMaster calculator (Casio fx-991) is allowed for the midterm tests and final exam. The assignments will involve the use of Excel. If you don't have access to it, is available in the student computer labs. Information about Excel commands will be provided with the assignment.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates two forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. (Discussions among students about assignments are allowed and are generally beneficial. However, you must write up solutions of the assignment problems by yourself and in your own words. Copying with minor changes (e.g., with symbols changed or with slightly different wording) from solutions prepared by another person, will be considered plagiarism.)
2. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Course Modification Warning

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Faculty Of Social Sciences E-Mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

Email Forwarding in MUGSI:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/support/email/emailforward.html>

*Forwarding will take effect 24-hours after students complete the process at the above link