Math 329  
Statistics for Business and Economics  
FALL 2008  

Section 4: T/Th 4:30 - 5:45 PM  
Ojai Hall 1964

Instructor: Kathryn Leonard  
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Office hours: T/Th 3:30 - 4:30 PM & by appt.  
Lab hours: T/Th 6:00 - 7:15 PM (Ojai Hall 1964)

TA: Kathleen Lewis  
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TA lab hours: MW 6:15-7:15 PM


Prerequisites: Algebra and single variable calculus.

Course Objectives: This course is an introduction to modern statistical methods used in business and economic analysis. Topics include sampling, probability, various distributions, correlation and regression, statistical inference, hypothesis testing, problem solving, and consequences thereof to underlying economical and business systems.

Learning Outcomes: The successful student will be able to:

- understand the application of statistics in business and research situations.
- understand the nature of statistical inference.
- analyze data in statistical and graphical terms.
- use a computer-based statistical software package (Excel).
- demonstrate a variety of commonly used techniques and understand the underlying models.
- express a generally posed scientific question as a statistical question.
Grading: Points will be assigned to course work as follows:

- HW: 100 points total
- Log reports: 100 points total
- Class participation: 100 points
- Projects: 100 points each (there will be about 7 of these)
- Final project and presentation: 200 points (required element)

Projects turned in as groups; Individual grade will come from project grade + grade from group

- Midterm 1: 200 points
- Midterm 2: 200 points
- Final (Tues., Dec. 9, 4-6 PM): 200 points (required element)

No late work will be accepted. You must earn at least 50% of the points in a given category to get the points for that category. Additional opportunities for earning points may arise during the semester.

The grades will be awarded by number of points earned. The only required assignments for the course are the final exam and the final project and presentation. You may choose which of the other assignments you would like to submit. Accumulated points at the end of the semester will give grades:

- A = 1300 points and above
- B = 1150 - 1299 points
- C = 1000 - 1149 points
- D = 850 - 999 points
- F = below 850 points.

I will award ± grades as a discretionary measure only, to bump someone up for displaying desirable qualities (like showing great improvement during the semester) or to bump someone down for displaying undesirable qualities (like whining). I will update grades on Blackboard as a courtesy to you, but the only true grade sheet is my grade sheet—any mistakes on Blackboard are, well, just mistakes.

Exams will not be curved. Students earning a B or lower may instead opt to do exam corrections for extra points back.

Note: You are encouraged to work together, but be sure to acknowledge all collaborators and outside references consulted.

Tips for success:

1. Warning: do not be lulled into a false sense of security during the first 3 weeks of class!! This is a difficult class, and Week 4 is a killer.
2. Don’t fall behind! The material builds on itself, so if you won’t be able to understand new material unless you understand what came before.
3. Do all assigned HW the week it is assigned (regular exercise is the key to a healthy brain).
(4) Come to lab hours, come to lab hours, come to lab hours...
(5) Ask questions in class as soon as you lose the thread.
(6) Use all available resources: tutoring center, open lab hours, email, blackboard, each other, ...

**Accommodations:** If you need special accommodations, please contact 805.437.8528.

**Course Schedule:** All relevant course info, including the schedule, may be found on the course website, accessible via Blackboard or faculty.csuci.edu/kathryn.leonard.

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**Academic Honesty**

Work on exams must be your own.

At all other times, I strongly encourage you to collaborate. If someone helps you, give her or him the credit, and write your own explanation. Each member of every group is responsible for his or her own understanding of the work submitted.

All work that students submit as their own work must, in fact, be their own work. For example, if a paper presents ideas of others, it must clearly indicate the source. Word-for-word language taken from other sources books, papers, web sites, people, etc., must be placed in quotation marks and the source identified. Likewise, work on tests and exams must be the student’s own work, not copied or taken from other students’ work, and students must comply with instructions regarding use of books, notes, and other materials.

In accordance with the CSUCI policy on academic dishonesty, students in this course who submit the work of others as their own (plagiarize), cheat on tests and examinations, help other students cheat or plagiarize, or commit other acts of academic dishonesty will receive appropriate academic penalties, up to and including failing the course.

Papers with plagiarized ideas or language will be graded F and must be rewritten with proper use of quotations and referencing. The grade of F will remain the recorded grade on that assignment.

Plagiarism or cheating on tests and exams will result in an F on the test or exam, very likely resulting in a lower or possibly a failing final grade in the course. To complete course requirements, students must retake the test or exam during the instructors scheduled office hours.

In cases where the cheating or plagiarism was premeditated or planned, students may receive an F for the course.