Course Information

**Lectures:** TR 12:30-1:45 pm, BRDA 1610

**Instructor:** Yuedong Wang, South Hall, Room 5509. *Office hour:* MF 11:00 - 12:00. Phone: 893-4870. E-mail: yuedong@pstat.ucsb.edu.


**Purpose of this class:** The aim of this course is to introduce basic concepts of probability and statistics so that one is able to understand and perform simple data analysis. The emphasis will be on concepts and problem solving rather than on theory.

**Topics:** Descriptive methods, graphs, measures of central tendency and spread, probability, random variables, mean and variance, binomial and normal distributions, confidence intervals, hypotheses testing, correlation and regression.

**Prerequisites:** High school algebra or equivalent.

**Teaching Assistant and Discussions:** The TA’s are graduate students selected from both the Statistics and Economics departments. We do several things in the two-hour weekly Discussion:

1. Students take Quizzes which consists of problems selected from the *previous* week’s Homework assignment.

2. Students and the TA work through a Practice Quiz.

3. Students are encouraged to request the TA’s help with Homework problems during Discussion.

You must attend Discussion Sections each week, where quizzes are given. The first Discussion starts on Jan. 17 (no class on Jan. 16).

**Homeworks and quizzes:** Homeworks will be assigned in classes but will not be collected. There will be a 15-25 minutes quiz almost every week during Discussion Sections based on homework problems assigned in the *previous* week. These quizzes will be graded and will count towards the final grade.

**Exams:**

- Midterm: Tuesday, February 14, 2006, 12:30-1:45 pm
- Final: Monday, March 20, 2006, 12:00-3:00 pm
The midterm exam will be based on the material covered up to the week before. The final exam will cover all aspects of the course. Both the exams will be open book and open notes. You will need a calculator for the exams. Also, please bring a picture ID for identity verification.

Course Grading: The final grade will be based on a curve of the overall score computed as follows:

- Quizzes: 30%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final: 40%

No make-up or early exams. No make-up quizzes. The single lowest Quiz score is dropped in the calculation of the course grade. The grades will be curved approximately as follows:

- 20% A
- 30% B
- 40% C
- 10% D, F

Extra Help: Besides my office hours, TA’s hold individual office hours and you are encouraged to go to ANY of those for help, not just your TA. Campus Learning Assistance Service (CLAS) also offers tutoring in small groups for this course, for which you can sign up.

Academic Honesty: You are expected to abide by the academic honesty code as stated in the UCSB General Catalog on all work for this course. In particular, during the exams and quizzes, you are required to work alone and for only the specified time period.

Class Web Pages: The official site is http://eres.library.ucsn.edu. The password is crash. I have also created a web site, http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/faculty/yuedong/5E/5E.htm. You can find the following on the above sites:

- Timely course announcements
- TA office hours and locations, and email addresses
- Discussion section times and locations
- Class schedule and notes
- Discussion schedule
- Homeworks and their solutions, and solutions to quizzes and exams
- Old exams with solutions
- How to get extra help
- How to do well in this class
- Class rules

Calculator: You will need a basic calculator and bring it to all lectures, discussions, quizzes and exams.

Work Load: This is a 5-unit course and therefore, according to University regulations, it carries a workload of about 15 hours per week. This includes lectures and discussion sections. The remainder of the time begin private study.