SYLLABUS
ECONOMICS 156
ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STATISTICS
SPRING 2008

Instructor: Ebrahim Ahmadizadeh
Location:
Time: Monday, Wednesday 8:50-10:00
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Textbook: ESSENTIALS OF STATISTICS FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS 4TH
Edition Anderson, Sweeney, Williams; South western publishing 2006.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to introduce you to the field statistics
and its many applications in business and economics. The course uses lectures, class
discussions, lab work, assignments and exams to help you develop critical thinking skills
that will allow you to recognize, describe, and analyze economic problems using
statistical tools. You will learn to use Excel to help solve these problems.

Graphing Calculator and Excel: Graphing calculators and Microsoft Excel software
will be used extensively in this course. Purchase of a TI-83 plus graphing calculator is
highly recommended. Excel and TI-83 plus will be used to demonstrate data analysis
and calculations in class. Other calculators with two variable statistical capabilities may
be used; some examples and a list of such calculators will be given in class.

Journal Entries:
Students are required to collect at least five articles related to statistics and/or probability
from sources such as newspapers, magazines, research journals, the Internet, or other
scientific sources and write a journal entry about the article and its conclusion. Students
are encouraged to read articles about their own field of study.

Methods of Evaluation (student assessment)
Students will be evaluated by means of tests, quizzes, classroom participation and
activities, computer assignments, homework, group and individual projects, journal
entries, and a comprehensive final exam.
Grades will be calculated as follows:

Homework /class participation   10%
Journal entries   5%
Individual and group projects   15%
Quizzes and 3 tests   50%
(all quizzes = 1test)
Comprehensive Final Exam   20%
Final Grade: The final grade will be determined as follows:

A = 93-100   B+ = 88 – 89 C+ = 78-79
A- = 90-92   B = 83 – 87   C = 73 – 77   D = 60 - 69
                 B- = 80-82   C- = 70-72   F = 0 – 59

Plus and minus grading system will be used.

One point per day will be deducted for late assignments.

If you miss a test you will be permitted to make it up only if you present a valid excuse in the next class period. Only one make up test will be given per student.
There will be NO make up quizzes.

All quiz and test dates will be announced in advance in class.

Attendance Policy:
Students are expected to attend all class sessions of the course and are responsible for all materials presented in the class. Often group activities and projects will be completed in class. If you are absent, you will not get credit for that group activity or project. There is no make up for missed quizzes. Make up tests will be given only in case of valid excuse. Attendance will be recorded by means of an attendance sheet.
All college policies regarding attendance will be followed.

Classroom Deportment:
Please turn off your cell phones. Each member of class is expected to be on time and act in a manner which respects the rights of all members of the class. Actions which are uncharacteristic of a college classroom will not be tolerated.

Help:
You are encouraged to ask questions in class or make an appointment when necessary. You can also email me with any questions regarding the course. Student tutors may be available. Please check with the college regarding availability of such services during the semester.

Academic Honesty:
The academic honesty policies of both the university and the department will be strictly adhered to.
You are expected and encouraged to work together on group projects during the class. While a group of you working on a project may come up with a solution to a problem, your write up of the solution must be entirely your own and in your own words. Copying solutions from others or allowing others to copy from you or copying solutions from a solutions manual is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

WEEK/DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Data and statistics	1	
2	Descriptive statistics I	2	Hw, Excel case problems, and projects will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard
3 4	Descriptive statistics II	3	HW Excel case problem
5 6	EXAM 1 Simple Linear Regression Simple Linear Regression	12 12	HW Excel case problem I, II, project
7	Introduction to probability	4	HW Excel case problem
8 9	Discrete Probability Distributions	5	HW Excel case problem
10	Continuous probability Distributions EXAM 2	6	HW Excel problem
11	Sampling Distribution	7	HW Excel case problem
12	Interval Estimation EXAM 3	8	HW Excel case problem
13	Hypothesis Testing	9	HW Excel problem
14	Comparison Involving Means	10	HW Excel case problem

15	Multiple Regression REVIEW FINAL EXAM	13	

This syllabus is intended as a guide and it may be changed during the semester. I will announce any necessary changes in class.