

Moravian College

Economics 156A/B: Economic & Business Statistics

Syllabus (Fall 2010): 30 August 2010

SYLLABUS 1: a compendium or summary outline of a discourse, treatise, course of study, or examination requirements : a series of abstracts. (Webster's 3rd New International Dictionary (1966))

Dr. George Brower Office: Comenius Hall 212 Contact: browerg@moravian.edu 610-861-1379

Schedule	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
?:?? - 9:45	Send email or call with 2+ times that fit your schedule and mine to arrange an appointment.				
9:45 - 10:15	FCFS	Send email or call with 2+ times that fit your schedule and mine to arrange an appointment.	FCFS	Send email or call with 2+ times that fit your schedule and mine to arrange an appointment.	Send email or call with 2+ times ...
10:20 - 11:30	MGMT 260		MGMT 260		
11:30 - 12:00	FCFS		FCFS		FCFS
1:10 - 2:20	ECON 156A		ECON 156A		ECON 156A
2:35 - 3:45	ECON 156B		ECON 156B		ECON 156B
3:45 - 4:15	FCFS		FCFS		FCFS
4:15 - ?::??	Send email or call with 2+ times that fit your schedule and mine to arrange an appointment.				

Office Hours: If FCFS: No appointments! You can "Walk right in, sit right down"¹

Else: I'm happy to see you by appointment. Email or call in advance *with at least two times that work for you* to arrange a mutually convenient time and place.

Prerequisites: College Algebra (see http://www.wtamu.edu/academic/anns/mps/math/mathlab/col_algebra/index.htm, especially tutorials: 1-6, 14-17, 21-23, 25-28, 30-32, 34-35, and 42-47.)

Goals: Students who complete this course should be able to:

1. **Describe a variable** numerically and graphically.
2. **Describe relationships between variables** numerically and graphically
3. **Explain causal relationships between variables** with regression analysis.
4. **Forecast (predict, . . .) a value of a variable** and **explain a forecast's meaning**.

Texts & Materials:

- Moore, David S., G.P. McCabe, W.M. Duckworth, and L.C. Alwan (2009) *The Practice of Business Statistics*. New York: W.H. Freeman.
- A calculator (**EVERY class!**), 3x5 cards, colored pencils, straight edge,

Advice on Preparation and Participation

- On average, students who do the assigned reading and other work **before class** find it easier to prepare for exams and generally earn higher grades.
- Each grade step (B- to B, etc.) represents 3.33%
- If grades were assigned based on daily preparation and participation, each class in a course that meets three times per week, 40 times in all, would represent 4% of the course.
- After four classes, someone who earned all of the 100 points available at that time would have earned a "J," if such a thing existed. After 24 classes, that student could have earned a D-, after 32 classes a B-, etc.
- Therefore, preparation and participation are worth almost a grade step per class, all semester long.

Assignments	Number	@ -- pts	@ -- %	Points	Percent
Prerequisite Pretest	1	100	10.00%	100	10.00%
Homework/Labs ^a	7/8 ^a	50	5.00%	350	35.00%
Convocation	1	50	5.00%	50	5.00%
Hourly Exams	2	150	15.00%	300	30.00%
Final Exam ^b	1	250	25.00%	250	25.00%
Attendance ^c	40	0	0.00%	0	0.00% ^c
Total				1000	100.00%

^a Your lowest lab score will not count. The convocation assignment counts as a lab.

^b You must be able to use/discuss material from Hourlies 1 & 2 correctly, but there will be no questions on topics from them.

^c But there are penalties for excessive tardiness; see Course Policies: Attendance and Tardiness, p. 3.

Class & Assignment Schedule (30 August 2009):

Date			Task
Mon	Aug	30	College Algebra Review
Wed	Sep	1	College Algebra Review
Fri	Sep	3	College Algebra Review Workshop
Wed	Sep	8	Prerequisite Pretest
Fri	Sep	10	Return & Review Prerequisite Pretest
Mon	Sep	13	Moore, et al., Chapters 1 and 2
Mon	Sep	20	Moore, et al., Chapters 3 and 4
Thu	Sep	23	Convocation: Rob Gifford on his book, <i>China Road</i> in Johnston Hall, 10:30-12:00
Mon	Sep	27	Moore, et al., Chapter 5 (definitions & table use, NOT formulas)
Wed	Sep	29	Review for 1st Hourly Exam
Fri	Oct	1	1st Hourly Exam
Mon	Oct	4	Return & Review Prerequisite Pretest
Wed	Oct	6	Moore, et al., Chapters 6, 7, and 8
Wed	Oct	13	Moore, et al., Chapters 6, 7, and 8 (continued)
Mon	Oct	18	Moore, et al., Chapter 9
Mon	Oct	25	Moore, et al., Chapter 10
Mon	Nov	1	Moore, et al., Chapters 6-10 (continued)
Wed	Nov	3	Review for 2nd Hourly Exam
Fri	Nov	5	2nd Hourly Exam
Mon	Nov	8	Return & Review 2nd Hourly Exam
Wed	Nov	10	Moore, et al., Chapters 11
Mon	Nov	15	Moore, et al., Chapters 11 (continued)
Mon	Nov	22	Moore, et al., Chapters 13
Mon	Nov	29	Moore, et al., Chapter 13 (continued)
Mon	Dec	6	Review for Final Exam
Wed	Dec	8	Conclusion, Q & A,
Tue	Dec	14	Section B (6th period) Third Hourly (Final) Exam: 1:30-4:30 PM
Thu	Dec	16	Section A (5th period) Third Hourly (Final) Exam: 8:30-11:30 AM

Course Policies:

Academic Honesty: The policy in the current *Moravian College Student Handbook*² applies. ***Anything you turn in for evaluation must be your individual work*** unless the assignment allows group work. ***Do not let enthusiasm in a group study session lead submitted work that seems shared to me.***

Attendance and Tardiness: I use attendance to:

1. Attach faces to names,
2. Know who is present and ready to work at the scheduled time. Managing attendance is your personal and professional responsibility. I do not need to see physician's, etc. notes but see **Make Up After an Absence**.
3. Document tardiness.
 - Everyone is tardy sometimes but *frequent tardiness or a pattern of tardiness indicates inadequate planning*. Late arrivals: disrupt the class, draw attention to themselves, are not ready to begin work. Late arrivals distract me and their classmates from the point at that moment. They missed part of the presentation or activity, often requiring restatement or individual guidance while other students wait. Their undoubtedly sincere apologies do not compensate for the disruption they cause.
 - Those who travel to campus from home or work should expect to more difficulty being on time. Include adequate time for travel uncertainties (construction, accidents, ...), finding a place to park, and reaching the classroom before class begins in your plans. Those challenges are ordinary parts of everyone's planning.
 - I reserve the right to penalize those who are tardy more than three (3) times. The fourth time you are tardy, I may impose a ten (10) points penalty for each tardiness, past or future. Ten points are 1% of the total for the course, so the penalty for being tardy four times, is 4% of the points available for the course. Since a step is 3.33% of total points, the tardiness penalty could be significant.
4. Guide benefit-of-the-doubt decisions when course grades are due.
5. Assist the Academic Affairs Office when a student withdraws.

Computers: You must log out of the network and close laptop, netbook, etc. lids *except for assigned activities*.

Confidentiality: The Buckley Amendment (FERPA 1974) forbids posting grades or discussing them by email.

Course Content Policy: 100-level Courses

- Introduce ... basic vocabulary/concepts, methodologies, & applications of discipline(s) relevant to the course.
- Explore the broad subject matter of a given field (generally a survey course).
- Encourage ... strategies/skills (& tools) [used] across disciplines (ex.: writing, computing, speaking, reading).
- Encourage critical thinking and advancing/acknowledging different ways of knowing.
- Deliberately prepare students for relevant 200 level courses in the discipline(s) relevant to the course
- Generally have no prerequisites

Due Dates: ***Except by prior arrangement assignments must be turned in before their deadline and exams must be taken as scheduled*** or you will receive zero points for that activity.

Electronics: Bring a calculator to every class, but turn off all other electronics, including wireless gear (headsets), cell phone, personal digital assistant (blackberry, etc), music player (iPod, etc.) during class.

Email Do not submit ANYTHING for evaluation by email without PRIOR permission.

Exam Aids: You may use no aids except those listed on review materials and exams.

Extra Credit: None. To learn more about a topic (if your GPA is 2.7+), ask about independent study.

Grades: See the table on page 3 and the College Catalog.

Handouts: including this syllabus will be at p:/econ/brower/e156 after distribution in class.

Learning and Other Disabilities: If you wish to disclose a disability and request accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), first see Mrs. Laurie Roth (1510; Office of Learning Services for learning disabilities or ADD/ADHD) or Dr. Ronald Kline (1510; the Counseling Center) for all other disabilities.

Make Up After an Absence: Read the assignment(s) and do any assignment(s). If you:

- Miss a class or two, see a colleague for notes, download any handouts, then see me.
- *For a planned absence*, see me in advance. ***College-scheduled trips are the only travel-related exceptions.***
- Unexpected extended absences: contact me and Mrs. Laurie Roth (1510) asap.

Returned Work that is not picked up in class is filed in an accordion folder (“Dr Brower’s Out Box”) outside my office door.

The folder’s contents are shredded 48 hours after the Registrar’s deadline for course grades.

Schedule, Syllabus and Calendar changes: are distributed in advance, posted at p:/econ/brower/e156 and, in the case of schedule changes, on my office door; *use the current version!*

Syllabus: This syllabus is available in the Academic Affairs Office (Monocacy Hall) and on-line at:

<http://home.moravian.edu/public/regis/fall10syllabi.htm>.⁴

Table of Minimum Points per Grade

Points	Percent	Letter	GPs	Catalog Definition	Minimum Cum GPA for:
1000	100.00%			... achievement of the highest caliber....	
933	93.33%	A	4.00	independent work, original thinking,...	
900	90.00%	A-	3.67	acquire and use knowledge effectively	
867	86.67%	B+	3.33	... higher than average achievement.	
833	83.33%	B	3.00	Evidence of independent work and original thinking...	Honors Program
800	80.00%	B-	2.67		2.70: Field & Independent Study
767	76.67%	C+	2.33	... reasonable ... time, effort, and attention	
733	73.33%	C	2.00	... familiarity with the content[,] ...	
700	70.00%	C-	1.67	methods of study ... active participation ...	Major and Graduation
667	66.67%	D+	1.33	... unsatisfactory work, below... standard	
633	63.33%	D	1.00	... one or more important aspects falls below	
600	60.00%	D-	0.67	the average expected ... for graduation.	
<600	<60.00%	F	0.00	No points. This indicates failure.	

- Record your grades when work is returned to help you know if you need extra help.
- Extra Help: See me! That’s why I’m here!
- Grading requires qualitative judgments that are not easily translated to a numeric scale. I cannot discuss grades by email (see: Confidentiality, above) but am happy to do so during office hours or by appointment.

Notes:

1. “Walk Right In,” The Rooftop Singers (1962), by Gus Cannon & Hosie Woods was first recorded by Cannon’s Jug Stompers in the late 1920s. Citation based on downloads from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walk_Right_In and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gus_Cannon on 15 January, 2009
2. The College’s Academic Honesty Policy is on-line at: <http://www.moravian.edu/studentLife/handbook/academic2.htm>
3. The College’s definition of grades is on-line at: <http://www.moravian.edu/assets/base/pdfs/catalog.pdf>, p. 47-48
4. The College’s statement on independent and field study and its honors program is on-line at: <http://www.moravian.edu/assets/base/pdfs/catalog.pdf>, p. 39-40

Colophon: This document uses Goudy Bookletter 1911, an open source version by Barry Schwartz (2009) of Frederic Goudy’s Kennerley Oldstyle. Goudy Bookletter 1911 is a text / display / serif / vintage (old-style) / Roman font.

A few words on why I [Barry Schwartz] think Kennerley Oldstyle is beautiful: In making this font, I discovered that Kennerley fits together tightly and evenly with almost no kerning. Thus the following words from Monotype specimen books are just: “[W]hen composed into words the characters appear to lock into one another with a closeness common in early types, but not so often seen in later-day creations.” These are letters that take command of the space around them; notice, for instance, the bowed shapes of the v and w.

Quotation downloaded 18 August 2010 from <http://www.theleagueofmoveabletype.com/fonts/8-goudy-bookletter-1911>
Goudy Bookletter 1911 is available from The League of Movable Type: <http://www.theleagueofmoveabletype.com>