Wharton

UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Statistics 101   Fall 2012
Introductory Business Statistics
Sections 001 and 002

Syllabus

Instructor: Paul Shaman, shaman@wharton, 431.1 JMHH, 898-8749

Office hours: TTh 3-6 and by appointment

Classes meet: Section 001 TTh 12–1:20
Section 002 TTh 1:30–2:50

Teaching Assistants

Name:	Justin Bleich	Philip Ernst
Email:	jbleich@wharton.upenn.edu	ernstp@wharton.upenn.edu
Office/Phone:		

Name:	Pei-Chao Peng
Email:	
Office/Phone:	

Course website

Statistics 101 is using Canvas. You can gain access by going to
https://wharton.instructure.com. All materials for this course will be distributed and
managed via this web site, and you will be able to monitor your grade entries throughout
the semester.

Note for non-Wharton students: If you don't have a Wharton Computing Account, you
will need to establish one to access Canvas. The account also allows use of the
computing labs in Wharton. You must have a current Penn ID card to obtain an account.
To get an account, go to

http://accounts.wharton.upenn.edu

After you have created your account, allow six hours for activation.

1

Contact

Use the Discussions board on Canvas to post questions about homework, exams, and scheduling, and to respond to posted questions if you wish. The instructor and the teaching assistants will be monitoring Discussions on a regular basis. You may also send email to the instructor and the teaching assistants, but are encouraged to first consult Canvas to see if your question has already been answered. In addition, you may consult with the instructor and the teaching assistants at office hours. Review sessions will be scheduled before the examinations. Time and location will be announced in class and posted on the calendar on Canvas.

Course Overview

The course develops ideas for helping to make decisions based on examination of data. Topics to be covered include variability, data display and summary statistics, simple regression, introductory probability, the normal and binomial distributions, sampling, the law of large numbers and the central limit theorem, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing.

The course will focus on critical interpretation and analysis of assumptions. We will use JMP software to carry out computations. We will address the details of computation very little—the main focus is understanding, interpretation, and communication of statistical results.

Materials

Statistics for Business Decision Making and Analysis, by R. Stine and D. Foster, Addison-Wesley, 2011

Class notes. These will be posted on Canvas and will outline and describe the lectures.

JMP 10 statistical software. We *highly recommend* you buy the software so that you will have it on your own computer. We will use it extensively in class, and you will need to know how to read its output and use it for assignments and for reading and interpreting quiz and examination questions. When you place the software on your computer you will also have installed seven manuals and two cards for quick reference, all in pdf format. JMP 10 is installed in Wharton classrooms and is available on machines in the Wharton Computer Labs, located in F75 and F80 JMHH.

A three-year JMP 10 license may be purchased for $59.95 at upenn.onthehub.com. Shorter term licenses are available from e5.onthehub.com. A six-month license costs $29.95 and a twelve-month license sells for $49.95. If you have an earlier version of JMP, it will suffice.

Homework

- There will be about eight homework assignments
- Homework will be posted on Canvas and will usually be due a week later. The deadline for submission is 5 pm on the due date.
- Late homework will not be accepted except for valid reasons. If your submission will be late, contact the instructor or a teaching assistant *in advance* and explain your situation.
- Hand in a stapled paper copy of your homework in the Department of Statistics suite (fourth floor JMHH, turn right after exiting the elevator). There will be a box, located under the clock, for your section. Graded homework will be placed in a box in the same location.
- The homework is designed to teach, and you are encouraged to seek help from the instructor and the teaching assistants. You may also work with and help each. ***However, you must submit your own solutions, with your own writeup and in your own words. Failure to do so will result in a penalty.***
- Homework grades will be posted on Canvas. A request for regrade must be made within one week of the posting. Regrading will not be done selectively within a homework paper—the entire paper will be regarded, and this could result in a lower grade.

Examinations

Two midterm examinations are scheduled:

Thursday, 4 October, 6-8 pm

Tuesday, 6 November, 6-8 pm

The final examination will be Wednesday, 12 December, 6-8 pm.

Practice questions will be posted on Canvas before each examination.

In-class quizzes will be held approximately every third week. Each quiz will last ten minutes and will begin at the start of class. There will be four quizzes during the semester. Each quiz will be announced in advance in class, and a reminder will be posted on the Canvas calendar. The quiz format will be multiple choice, and practice questions will be posted on Canvas prior to each quiz.

Quizzes should be written in ink. Those submitted in pencil will not be considered for regrading.

Grading and Grading Policy

- Your course grade will be calculated as 20% homework, 15% quizzes, 30% midterm examination score, and 35% final examination.
- Your lowest homework score will be dropped. Nonsubmission counts as a zero score.
- Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. A missed quiz counts as a zero score. There will be no makeup quizzes.
- The midterm examination score is the greater of your two individual midterm examination scores. A missing midterm examination counts as a zero score. There will be no makeup midterm examinations. You are not required to take both midterm examinations, but skipping the first one is strongly discouraged.

Calendar

Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday all weeks except the following:

- The week of 3 September—the first class is Thursday, 6 September
- The week of 22 October—Fall Break is 19–23 October.
- The week of 19 November—Thanksgiving occurs this week and only the Tuesday class will be held.

The last class day is Thursday, 6 December. Altogether there are 25 class days (Tuesday–Thursday schedule).

Drop and Withdrawal

The drop deadline is Friday, 12 October. The withdrawal deadline is Friday, 16 November.