Department: Mathematics and Statistics
Course: STA/MTH 379 – Statistical Methods in Practice
Semester: Summer II 2011
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Ananda Bandulasiri Manage
Office: LDB 439H
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Office Hours: TTh 12:00pm – 1:00pm, or by appointment.
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Text: Discovering Statistics by Daniel Larose.
TI-83 Plus or TI-84 Plus calculator is recommended.

Material Covered: Methods of summarizing and analyzing data; probability; statistical concepts and models; estimation; tests of significance, linear regression. Chapter 1 – Chapter 10.

Attendance: Class attendance is extremely important to succeed in this course. Roll will be taken at class meetings. Two extra points will be added to the overall score for the students having NO more than 2 absences for the semester. Late arrival, leaving class early and forgetting to sign the roll sheet are counted as absences.

Learning Outcomes: The learning outcomes for this course shall include but not be limited to the following:
(a) An appreciation of the role of statistics in everyday decision making.
(b) An understanding of the need to be wary of statistical claims.
(c) An understanding of the meanings of various measures, including the sample mean, median, mode, standard deviation, and quartiles.
(d) Gain a familiarity with graphical representations of data and learn how to recognize misleading graphs.
(e) Develop proficiency in solving probability problems.
(f) Gain an understanding and be able to apply the Central Limit Theorem.
(g) Learn how to compute and interpret confidence intervals.
(h) Learn how to perform and interpret hypothesis tests.
(i) Introduction to simple linear regression

Assessment: Continuous assessment of the progress of the course will occur via ongoing communication between the instructor and students. To this end all students are encouraged to ask questions during class and seek the instructor's help out of class when needed. Please read the sections about HW, quizzes and exams for further details.

Quizzes & Homework: I will assign you homework every time we meet. I will collect your homework OR give a quiz based on homework. Pop-up quizzes will also be given.
Missed Work: There will **not** be any **make-up examinations**. Every missed examination will result in zero unless you have a valid (written) excuse from a **proper authority** *(Example: a letter from Dean of Students)*. In the event your excuse is **acceptable and I am convinced**, the score you earn on the final exam will replace missed exam score. **No make-up quizzes!!! No late homework will be accepted!!!** *(even with good reasons)*. I will drop the lowest quiz/homework grade.

**Grading Policy:**

- 3 in class exams (midterms)  
  - 45 points
- Quizzes & Homework  
  - 30 points
- SPSS project  
  - 05 points
- The comprehensive final exam  
  - 20 points

**Grading Scale:**

- 90 and above A, 80 - 89 B, 70 - 79 C, 60 - 69 D, 0 – 59 F

**Important Dates:**

- Midterm exam1 - July 13, 2011
- Midterm exam2 - July 22, 2011
- Midterm exam3 - Aug 01, 2011
- Last class day - Aug 02, 2011
- Final examination - Aug 03, 2011

**Civility in the Classroom:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment which is conductive to learning. **Please turn off cell phones and beepers. No newspapers. ****NO TEXTING******

**Academic Dishonesty**: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.
Use of Telephones and Text Messagers in Academic Classrooms and Facilities:
The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text messager during class-time is not allowed. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor’s policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course. Any use of a telephone or text messager or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty (see student code of conduct http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/StudentGuidelines2010-2012.pdf#page=29).

Students with Disabilities: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of the Counseling Center (936) 294-1720.

Religious Holidays: University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day must be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. Students must be excused to travel for observance of a religious holy day. A student who wishes to be excused for a religious holy day must present the instructor with a written statement describing concerning the holy day(s) and the travel involved. The instructor should provide the student with a written description of the deadline for the completion of missed exams or assignments.