

**Faculty Liberal Arts and Professional Studies
Department of Economics**

Course AP/ECON 2500 3.0, Section A - Introductory Statistics for Economists I

Course Material: Posted on Moodle

Term: Fall 2021

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: NA

Please note that Econ2500 is currently designated as an in-person delivered course. The course material will be posted on Moodle, the lectures will be held on campus and virtual office hours will be held on Zoom.

Course Instructor

Xianghong Li

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Lectures: Monday 8:30am - 10:30am

Wednesday 9:30am - 10:30am

Location: ACE 102

Virtual Office hours: Thursday, 8:20pm - 9:30pm via Zoom. The Zoom link for the virtual office hours is:
<https://yorku.zoom.us/j/95989288128>

For students who would like to have a one-on-one meeting with the instructor, please sign up on Moodle to schedule a 10-minute individual appointment on Zoom.

Email Policy: Only administrative questions will be answered by email. For statistical questions, please ask after class or schedule an appointment on Moodle during my virtual office hours.

Course Announcements: Weekly update will be sent on Sunday. Additional message may be sent out during the week if there is an important course announcement. You are responsible to follow course announcements closely.

Course Description:

Econ 2500 is the first course in statistics. This course is intended to achieve statistical literacy. It will introduce the students to the very basic statistical concepts and methods, but most importantly, it will familiarize the students with statistical thinking and reasoning and enable the students to assess quantitative information and simple empirical findings.

I strongly encourage students to spend time on R, the statistical software package chosen for this course. Hands-on experience is the key to building statistical sense and skills. I will spend some class time on R. Students will need R to solve some of the practice problems. Exams will include questions requiring R analysis.

Textbook:

Richard D. De Veaux, Paul F. Velleman, David E. Bock, Augustin M. Vukov, and Augustine Wong, Stats: Data and Models, 4th Canadian Edition, Pearson.

Parts I to V will be covered. Detailed coverage is posted on Moodle.

Practice Problems

Practice problems by chapter will be posted on Moodle. Students should work on them to keep up with the course. These problems are intended for students' learning and are **not to be submitted**. Solutions are provided at the end of the textbook. I also provide detailed solutions to some selected problems. It is very important for students to solve those problems before checking the solutions.

Term Tests:

Over the term, there will be three types of tests, quizzes (format TBA), midterm exam and final exam. Quizzes are given to help student keeping up with the course. Midterm will cover the first half of course material. The final will be comprehensive with more emphasis on the second half of course material.

Midterm: TBA

Final: TBA

Grading

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). ***Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.***

Evaluation Weighting Scheme

Quizzes	40%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <https://calendars.students.yorku.ca/>

Missed Tests

Given the current situation of the ongoing pandemic, if students miss the quizzes or exams, there is NO need to submit a document. **There will be no make-ups for the quizzes and midterm exam. The weight of a missed midterm will be shifted to the final. No more than half of the quiz weight can be shifted to the final. All the weighting adjustment will be applied automatically without a request from the students.**

If you decide to request for a deferred standing for the final exam, please check the department rules. The students who have been granted a deferred exam will be notified the date and time of the deferred exam at a later date. Students who may require further extensions or accommodation will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

Hardware and software requirements

Zoom

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

Moodle

Please review the [technology requirements and FAQs for Moodle](#).

Hardware

Students will need a stable, higher-speed Internet connection via a computer or a smart phone for lectures and exam-taking. If relying on a computer for lectures and office hours, a microphone is needed for participation.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources and help:

[Student Guide to Moodle](#)

[Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)

[Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)

[Computing for Students Website](#)

[Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#)

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run.

Academic honesty and integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's [Academic Integrity module](#) at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Add/Drop Deadlines

	FALL (TERM F)	YEAR (TERM Y)	WINTER (TERM W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 21	Sept. 21	Jan. 23
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 5	Oct. 26	Feb. 7
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 12	Feb. 11	March 18
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	Nov. 13 - Dec. 7	Feb. 12 - April 10	March 19 - April 10

****Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:** <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>
<https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw21>