Instructor: David J. Thomson, Jeffrey Hall 411, djt@mast.queensu.ca

Office Hours: By appointment (any time).

Course Website: http://www.mast.queensu.ca/~stat454/


Prerequisites: STAT 464 (or equivalent) or permission of the instructor.

Course Outline: The course will roughly follow the first eight chapters of the course notes. Focus will be heavier on chapters 3-6, with additional material presented essentially based on how the course progresses. Students will be expected to attend lectures on all topics, although material will be made available via the website and course note updates.

Grading for all students: Your grade for the course will be split into three parts.

- Homework: 40% (split between theory and coding/data analysis)
- Project: 30% (report-style)
- Exam: 30% (take-home, during the term)

Homework: There will be 6 – 10 homework sets assigned approximately once per week. These will be comprised of theoretical questions and applied questions involving some coding. Graduate students may be responsible for extra material on occasion.

Project: Each student will be responsible for completing a term project involving data analysis. Students are responsible for finding a suitable time series data set and confirming its suitability with the instructor. The deadline for submission of data sets is February 28th.

Exam: The take-home exam will be given to students sometime in March, with due-date before the end of term. Students will be given a reasonable length of time to work on the exam, most likely 2 weeks.

Academic Integrity: The university has a statement which I will reproduce here:

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the ”freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas” essential to the intellectual life of the University.
Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1), on the Arts and Science website (see http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/sites/default/files/Academic_Regulations.pdf), and from the instructor of this course.

Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen’s. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Important Dates:

Add Deadline ............................................. January 20, 2012
Drop Deadline ............................................... March 2, 2012
Data Set submission ................................. February 28, 2012
Project Deadline .......................................... April 6, 2012