

Syllabus for Statistical Inference I (5080/6824)

Instructor: Ron Reeder, PhD

E-mail: ron.reeder@hsc.utah.edu

Course Homepage: math.utah.edu/~reeder

Suggestions for success: Read the chapter before class, working out the examples from the chapter on your own paper. Try homework problems before looking at the solution. Compare your homework solutions to those I have posted (<https://www.math.utah.edu/~reeder/>), to those in the back of the textbook, or to those found on chegg.com. Form a study group with classmates and routinely do homework together. On quizzes and exams, after you have finished, start over and completely rework each problem on new paper; this is a great tool for fixing those little mistakes. Reviewing your already written solutions is FAR less useful.

Required Textbook: Introduction to Probability and Mathematical Statistics, 2nd edition (ISBN: 978-0534380205).

chegg.com: It comes highly recommended, and it's practically free. You can get questions answered and see carefully worked out solutions to problems in the textbook. I haven't personally tried it, but many students swear by it.

Office hours: I am available after class on Thursdays and sometimes on Tuesdays too.

Canvas and email: I will use your university email and/or Canvas for communication. You can use either to contact me, but email is typically faster. I usually check emails about once every business day.

Homework: Homework assignments will be posted on Canvas two days in advance (or more) and usually also mentioned in class the period before it is due. Homework is submitted via Canvas.

Quizzes: We will typically have a quiz each class day, and you must be in class to take the quiz. Fully correct solutions are worth 2 points. 1 point may be given for a mostly correct solution.

Being sick: If you're infected with a contagious disease such as COVID, flu, or cold:

- Stay home;
- Email me your circumstances as soon as reasonable;
- Submit the homework when you can; it's okay if it's late.
- Binge watch your favorite show on Netflix, Disney, or Prime, and tell me what it is (if you want).
- If you miss an exam, you'll have 3 weeks to take the exam starting from the first day you missed. Make-up exams will be given on Thursday evenings after class. Let me know in advance which day you will take the make-up exam.
- If you miss an in-class quiz, you'll have an opportunity to make up those points; see exams below.

Exams: There will be 2 midterm exams and a comprehensive final. Each midterm will be worth about 12 points and the final exam will be worth about 18 points. Partial credit may be awarded, similarly to quizzes. Each quiz will have a question on the final exam associated with it. These will be problems from the same chapter and may or may not be similar questions. If you missed a quiz to due illness, then whatever score you get on the exam question will also be counted as your quiz score. Exams will be scheduled at least a week in advance of the exam date.

Honesty: On quizzes and exams, you may use only your pencil, the exam booklet, and your intellect. Using anything else such as a cell phone, notes, a book, or a calculator during an exam or quiz is considered cheating. Any academic misconduct may result in a failing grade and may be reported to the dean of students in accordance with Policy 6-400 of the Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities. I've had a very unfortunate case where cheating caused a failing grade for a required class the semester before graduation. I don't want to repeat that.

Grading Policy: This class will be graded on a curve, according to the historical distribution of grades in Math 5080. After the first exam, I'll give more detail, e.g. exactly how many As will be given (at a minimum).

Calculators: Calculators and computer software can be used for homework but will not be permitted on quizzes or exams.

COVID

You can find up-to-date information on vaccination, masking, testing, and self-reporting requirements here: <https://coronavirus.utah.edu/>. This class meets on the medical campus, so we sometimes have stricter rules. For example, masks have been required in the Williams building for a long time, well before the county mandate was in place.

Other stuff not specific to this class

The Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020, <https://disability.utah.edu/>. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted on the basis of your sex, office for equal opportunity and affirmative action including sexual orientation or gender identity/expression, you are encouraged to report it to the University's Title IX Coordinator; Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, <https://oeo.utah.edu/contact-us/index.php> or to the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066, <https://deanofstudents.utah.edu/>. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS), <https://police.utah.edu/>.

Campus Safety: The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu

University Counseling Center: The UCC staff is committed to supporting the mental health needs of our campus community. Their phone number is 801-581-6826. Their hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm. For after-hours emergencies, contact the 24/7 Crisis Line: 801-587-3000. More information is at <https://counselingcenter.utah.edu/> .

Office of the Dean of Students: The Office of the Dean of Students is dedicated to being a resource to students through support, advocacy, involvement, and accountability. It serves as a support for students facing challenges to their success as students, and assists with the interpretation of University policy and regulations. To contact the Office of the Dean of Students, please email deanofstudents@utah.edu or call 801-581-7066. There is more information at <https://deanofstudents.utah.edu/> .