Overview of the Course

This course provides an applied introduction to the practice of quantitative consulting, including both technical and interpersonal components. By the end of this semester, you should be able to:

• Be comfortable learning new statistical / mathematical methods on your own.
• Provide immediate guidance and feedback on quantitatively-oriented questions.
• Analyze other researchers’ data in an appropriate way.
• Present results in a clear and meaningful way.
• Use appropriate interpersonal skills in a consulting setting.

Textbooks


Course Requirements

1. Readings and activities: There will be weekly reading assignments and/or discussion questions; you must complete these to fully participate in the in-class discussion and exercises. Occasionally, you may also be required to turn in a written exercise in response to a reading. Your grade on this portion of the class will be judged according to the quality of your in-class participation and any accompanying written work.

2. Student consulting: You will observe a total of five consulting shifts across the course of the semester (approximately 2.5 hours per shift). Your grade on this portion will be judged according to your timeliness and the professionalism of your conduct during the session. There will be one video-taped role-playing session. You will review the recordings of these sessions and prepare approximately 10-20 minute self-critique during class. Your grade on this portion will be judged on the quality of your self-critique.

3. Presentations: You will give one 30-minute presentations to the class over the course of the semester. Presentations will be on a particular statistical issue. You
can find a list of articles on the class BlackBoard site or select an article on your own. Your grade on this portion of the class will be judged according to the completeness, accuracy, and clarity of the information you present to the class.

4. **Group Data Analysis**: Each Student will be placed in a team for their data analysis projects. For every project, each member of the team has to analyze the data and will have to do a formal write up the results. Each team must also use at least two different softwares to analyze the data and verify their results. At every class, each team will need to have a write-up to give to the rest of the class. This is not a formal write-up and will consist of:
   - Description of research and data (can use same one every week).
   - Description of any meetings with faculty (for Fellows).
   - What your team has done so far.
   - What your team has to do next.
   - Any concerns your team has.
   - Any results your team has.
   - Challenges your team faced or is facing.

**Grading**

Grades will be calculated using the following formula:

- 30% (weekly assignments and in-class participation)
- 25% (student consulting)
- 25% (data analysis)
- 20% (presentations)

**Final Grade**

Your overall letter grade will be assigned as follows:
A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 0-59.

**Class Policies**

- **Class Attendance**: Regular class attendance and participation is expected and will be evaluated as part of your grade. To seek an excuse from attendance on a specific day, please e-mail the instructor in advance.
- **Academic Integrity**: The University considers any act designed to avoid participating honestly in the learning process as academic dishonesty. This includes, for example, providing misleading information to receive a postponement or extension on an assignment, collaborating with others on an assignment without instructor authorization, or submitting essentially the same written assignment for two courses without prior permission of the instructor. For more information on scholastic dishonesty and its potential consequences, visit Student Judicial Services at [www.deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs](http://www.deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs).
• Learning Differently: If you have a learning, sensory, or physical reason to need special accommodations in this class, please contact the Dean of Students’ office at 471-6259. They will give you the documentation you need to pass on to us so that we can meet your needs.