

# ECON 120A

Probability and Statistics  
WLH 2111 Summer 2018

**Instructor:** Dr. Tia Hilmer

**Email:** [chilmer@sdsu.edu](mailto:chilmer@sdsu.edu)

**Office Hours:** before or after class or by appointment

**Teaching Assistant:** Yanjun Liao *email:* yal005@ucsd.edu

**Class Web Page:** TritonEd

**Lab:** Thursday, 9am -10:50am WLH 2204

**Text:** Thomas H. Wonnacott and Ronald J. Wannacott (1990): *Introductory Statistics for Business and Economics*, John Wiley & Sons.

**Course Objectives:** This course is to serve as an introduction to statistics and provide the tools necessary to conduct econometric analysis. These tools include summary statistics, probability theory, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing.

## Course Grading

Grades will be based on the following allocation:

Midterm    40%        Final Exam    60%

Midterm 1 will be on Wednesday, July 18 in class and the final exam is on Friday, August 3 from 8:00 to 10:59. These dates are not negotiable.

## Problem Sets

There will be approximately four problem sets throughout the quarter. They are designed to supplement the material presented in class and to provide you with some practical experience in the subject area. Assignments will not be due but the exams will draw heavily from these assignments. All answers are posted to TritonEd

## Exams

No makeup exams will be given. Once you start taking an exam, the test counts. Under no circumstances can you have your test results not count. You do not need blue books. Exams are electronics free except for the use of a BASIC calculator. No cell phones, no ipods, no headphones, etc. You may leave during an exam but you will not be permitted to come back.

If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains as long as no one has turned in his/her exam and left the room. Once a classmate has turned in his/her exam or if you miss an exam, you will earn a zero on that test.

The marking scheme on this syllabus is final. Under university regulations, the posted marking scheme applies to all students without exceptions. There is no dropping an exam or extra credit of any kind. Please make sure you are well prepared for both exams. Grades are determined on a curve.

All exams will be closed book, but you can bring ONE page (one-sided, no larger than 8.5in by 11in) of notes to the midterm and TWO pages to the final exam. It must be hand-written; photo reducing and pasting is not permitted. Please also bring a calculator to each exam.

### **Attendance and Classroom Behavior**

There is no attendance requirement. However, you are responsible for all information presented during class and I strongly encourage you to attend class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate and get their lecture notes. Please be on time to class and do not leave early. Do not talk during class and turn off you cell phones before class begins.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

There is a zero tolerance policy in this class for academic dishonesty. Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive an F in the course. If you are unsure what constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask or consult with your college dean. In all cases, the student's name and test or exam will be immediately forwarded to the Academic Integrity Office, who will impose an additional penalty, up to and including expulsion from the university. Please do not even consider cheating, it is not worth it and you will not be given a second chance.

If you have a documented disability, please come to talk to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you.

You are responsible for all material discussed in class and in the readings. If you miss a class, please get the notes from a classmate.

## **Course Outline**

- I. Introduction (Chapter 1)
- II. Basic Data Analysis (Chapter 2)
- III. Probability Concepts (Chapter 3)
- IV. Random Variables (Chapters 4 and 5)
- V. Estimation (Chapter 7)
- VI. Sampling Distributions (Chapter 6)
- VII. Confidence Intervals (Chapter 8)
- VIII. Hypothesis Testing (Chapter 9)
- IX. Introduction to Regression Analysis