**SECOND REVISION**

SYLLABUS

BIOSTATISTICS 514/517

BIOSTATISTICS I/ APPLIED BIOSTATISTICS I

AUTUMN 2008

PREREQUISITES: Graduate standing, comfort with algebra, logarithms and summation signs; or permission of the instructor

HOURS:

Lectures: Mon-Wed-Fri 9:30-10:20, Health Sciences T-739

Discussions: Mondays 8:30-9:20, Health Sciences T-530 (517AA)
Wednesdays 8:30-9:20, Health Sciences T-473 (517AB)
Fridays 8:30-9:20, Health Sciences T-531 (517AC/514AA)

INSTRUCTOR: Barbara McKnight, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Biostatistics
F-644 Health Sciences; 616-8078
e-mail: bmck@u.washington.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 10:30-11:20 am; F644
Tuesdays 1:30-2:20 pm; F644
Fridays, 10:30-11:20 am; F644

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:
Anne Skaron
e-mail: annie.skaron@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:30-11:00 Health Sciences Microcomputer Lab
Thursdays 9:30-11:00 Health Sciences Microcomputer Lab

Yunping Zhou
e-mail: ypzhou@u.washington.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 3:30 - 5:00 Health Sciences Microcomputer Lab
Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:30 Health Sciences Microcomputer Lab

REQUIRED TEXTS:


Lecture notes available on the Web site (and in class on first day).
Supplemental articles available on the class web page.

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS:**


Hamilton, L.  *Statistics with Stata* updated for version 9. 2006

Machin D, Cheung YB, Mahesh KB, Parmar MKB: *Survival Analysis: A Practical Approach* 2006


**ONLINE LECTURES:** Adobe Flash files with recorded slides and audio from lecture sessions will be available on the class website as soon as possible after class (typically later the same day).

**COMPUTER SOFTWARE:** We will be using STATA 10.1 in the Health Sciences Microcomputer Laboratory. Discounted personal copies of STATA 10.1 are available for UW Health Sciences faculty students and staff via the Stata web site at: [http://www.stata.com/order/schoollist.html](http://www.stata.com/order/schoollist.html). If you purchase Stata for this course, be sure to purchase the Intercooled (IC) version of Stata.

**CLASS WEBSITE:** Homework assignments, class discussion board link and lecture notes will be available on the class website: [http://courses.washington.edu/b517](http://courses.washington.edu/b517)

**DISABILITY:** If you would like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disability Resources for Students, 448 Schmitz, 543-8924 (V/TDD). If you have a letter from Disability Resources for Students indicating you have a disability that requires academic accommodations, please present the letter to me as soon as possible so we can discuss and prepare for the accommodations you might need for class.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Weekly Homework Due every 9:00pm Wednesday (except 9:00 pm Friday on the last week of class), in the homework drop box on the class website.

Discussions Most weeks you will be assigned to a small discussion group and asked to discuss some HW questions with your group as preparation for the larger discussion in section or lecture.

Quizzes (closed book, open calculator): Last 20-25 minutes of each of three classes: Fri Oct 17; Fri Nov 7; Wed Nov 26 (no make-up quizzes or exams).

Final Exam (closed book, open calculator): Wednesday, December 10, 8:30-10:20 a.m., HS T-739.

HOMEWORK POLICY:

I view the homework in this class as an important part of the process of your learning, and not as a part of the evaluation of your learning. Some homework will be practice; some will help you figure out what your questions are; some will ask you to think about questions before we cover them in class. Thus, you do not need to give a correct answer for HW questions, but you do need to provide evidence of your thought processes on each question, so that graders can tell that you made an effort. Also, because the material in this course is sequential, it is important that you complete homework and turn it in on time, so that you are ready for the discussion and new material that follow it.

To avoid the distraction of paper shuffling in class, homework will be turned in online at the class homework drop box: https://catalysttools.washington.edu/collectit/dropbox/bmck/3459. Homework will be due at 9:00 pm Wednesdays, except for the last week of class when it will be due at 9:00 pm Friday. It should be submitted in either Word (.doc) or .pdf format. Late homework will not be accepted.

I view homework as a chance for you to practice synthesizing the information given to you on the computer and translating it into language. Thus, except on Homework 1, where I explicitly request it, I have instructed TAs to give you no credit for any homework that contains statistical software output other than computer generated plots.

EMAIL:

I am happy to answer email questions when I have time, but because of other commitments I can only guarantee to read and respond to email on Monday and Friday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. The best way to get help from me is to come to office hours.
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:

I take seriously my role as an advocate for your learning in this class. In addition to providing information, assignments and activities that I hope will support your learning, I will do my best to help us maintain the classroom as a supportive learning environment. To that end, I ask that we all commit to showing respect to each other both inside and outside of class. One way we can do this is by avoiding behavior that might be disturbing or distracting to others in the classroom. For example:

- Please listen respectfully to other students’ comments during discussions and avoid interrupting them.
- Please avoid conversations when another student or the instructor is speaking.
- If you disagree with another student’s opinion, please do so respectfully and constructively.
- Please place any pagers or cell phones on silent mode before entering class.
- If you know you might need to leave during class, please sit on the aisle near the door so that you minimize any disruption as you exit.
- Please try to arrive in enough time to be settled when class begins.
- If you are late to class, please perform any necessary unpacking in the hallway before entering the classroom.
- Please avoid chewing crunchy food or rattling food wrappers or other papers during class.

GRADING:

Numerical class grades will be based on the final exam (35%), best 2 of 3 quiz scores (35%), the data analysis project (20%), and participation in class discussions (10%).

In addition, weekly homework will be marked check or minus, for whether or not it represents a good faith effort to answer all the questions. Answers need not be correct if a good faith effort was made. (However, homework containing computer output when it is not explicitly requested will be marked minus.) The course grade will be computed based on quiz and exam grades as detailed above, and then adjusted downward according to the chart below if an insufficient number of homeworks were turned in on time as good faith efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Homeworks handed in on time as good faith efforts:</th>
<th>Maximum grade possible:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85% or greater</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%-84.9%</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65%-74.9%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;65%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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