STA 248 – STATISTICS FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

Winter 2004

Lectures: Tuesdays 10:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in MP 202
          Thursdays 11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in MP 202
Instructor: A. Gibbs
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Office hours: To be scheduled and by appointment

Statistics is the science of making sense of data. This course is a survey of statistical methodology. We will quickly cover techniques of data collection and description. Most of the course will focus on methods of analysing observed data in order to make inferences.

Textbook
The textbook is Mathematical Statistics and Data Analysis, 2nd edition by John A. Rice. We will be covering chapters 7 through 14 (but will start with chapter 10).

Evaluation
The grading scheme is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date (to be confirmed)</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term Test</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 2</td>
<td>10:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Thursday, January 22</td>
<td>due at beginning of lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Thursday, February 12</td>
<td>due at beginning of lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 3</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Thursday, March 18</td>
<td>due at beginning of lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 4</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 6</td>
<td>due at beginning of lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>scheduled by Faculty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test will be written in a room other than the lecture room (location to be announced). The assignments will involve both theoretical questions and data analysis projects for which you will use the R programming environment. Additional practice problems will also be assigned.

If a test is missed for a valid reason, you must submit appropriate documentation within one week of the test. Print on it your name and student number. If a test is missed for a valid reason, its weight will be shifted to the final exam. 10% of the total marks for an assignment will be deducted for each day it is late.

Computing
R (or Splus) can be used and they are available on the CQUEST system. To get an account, go to www.cquest.utoronto.ca. R can also be downloaded free-of-charge. I am assuming that you have used R in STA 247.