PSTAT 5A

Syllabus

Winter 2013

Instructor	**Alexandra Chronopoulou** chronopoulou@pstat.ucsb.edu South Hall 5501
Class	MWF 12:00 – 12:50 pm
Office Hours	MW 1:30 – 2:30 pm
Course Website	`https://gauchospace.ucsb.edu/`
Textbook	*StatClass*, *2nd Edition*, Revised Printing, Dawn Holmes and Lubella Lenaburg, McGraw-Hill (2007)

Course Goals

PSTAT 5A is an introduction to statistics and probability. The course consists of three parts: *Probability*, *Descriptive Statistics* and *Statistical Inference*. There are three main goals in this class: learn how to summarize and visualize datasets, learn the basic concepts and rules of probability and learn how to build probability models in order to draw conclusions from datasets.

Lectures & Participation

A detailed lectures plan is posted on the course website. After each lecture I will be posting the lecture slides.

Participation is not required and it may count to your final grade only to your advantage. Throughout the quarter, you are going to use *iClickers*, in order to answer questions related to the material discussed during the lecture. By answering all but one question during a lecture (right or wrong), you get 1 point for this lecture, otherwise 0. In the end, you can drop the three lowest scores (that is up to three 0s). This will determine your participation grade.

You can buy an *iClicker* from the UCen bookstore. After purchasing the clicker, you should register it through the iClicker website (`iclicker.com`) so that your remote's ID number is paired to your UCSB perm number. You can find more information on how to do this on the course website. **Bringing somebody else's clicker in the classroom is considered *cheating* and appropriate actions will be taken.**

Discussion & Lab Sessions

Every week there will be **two** discussion sessions supervised by a TA: one in a *classroom* and one in a *computer lab*. **Attendance is required** . *There are no make-up discussion sessions.*

In each session, you will be assigned a problem set/computer assignment that should be completed and returned to your TA (for grading) during the session. You may work in groups (but each one should submit his/her own work), use your notes and books. You may ask the TA for help, but do not expect him/her to give away the complete answer to the problem.

All grades will be posted on Gauchospace. It is your responsibility to make sure that the grades posted are correct. For any concerns regarding assignment grades that have not been posted correctly, please contact your TA **at most one week** after the grade has been posted.

Exams – Quizzes

There will be 4 quizzes on:
- **Wednesday, January 23*rd***
- **Wednesday, February 6*th***
- **Wednesday, February 20*th***
- **Monday, March 4*th***

and a final exam on **Tuesday, March 19*th* (12.00-3.00pm)**.

The 4 quizzes are going to be in-class (and not cumulative). The final exam will be cumulative, that is it will cover *all* the material from the beginning of the quarter. All exams will be closed books/notes. During the exam, you will be allowed to bring only a **non-graphing** calculator. **Cell phones are not allowed to be used as calculators and must be switched off during tests.**

There will be no make-up tests. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are available at the designated assessment times. The **only** exception are students on sports teams. If there is a conflict, you should contact me in advance.

Grading

Your overall grade in this class will be determined by the following scheme:

	Grade A	Grade B
Classroom & Lab Assignments	10%	10%
Quizzes	60% (i.e. 15% each)	55% (the lowest will count only 10%)
Participation	0%	5%
Final Exam	30%	30%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Final Grade = Maximum (Grade A, Grade B)

Based on past experience, you should expect that the letter grade distribution would be approximately **20% A's, 30% B's, 40% C's, and 10% D's and F's**. However, the letter distribution will depend on the absolute performance of the class.

Getting Help

There are several ways to get help for the course:

- You can ask me any questions you may have during office hours.
- You may also ask your TAs any questions related to the course material during the weekly sessions.
- CLAS (`http://www.clas.ucsb.edu/`) is a good source for general tutoring. You can sign-up either to regular weekly group tutorials or you can drop-in at subject-specific tutorial labs.
- If you feel you are struggling with the material and you need a personal tutor, there are approved people who can be hired as personal tutors at the statistics department website: `http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/projects/leadtatraining/tutoring.htm`.

Academic Integrity

Any student caught cheating in PSTAT 5A will be given an **F** for the course and reported to the College of Letters and Science. Further disciplinary measures may be taken.

Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the Universitys educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience as well as the value of one' s degree. It is expected that all UCSB students will support the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be responsible for the integrity of their work. **"Academic Integrity: A Students Guide"** (`http://judicialaffairs.sa.ucsb.edu/AcademicIntegrity.aspx`)

Special Accommodation

If you need a course adaptation or special academic accommodations, please contact me during my office hours or via e-mail. If you need any special accommodations for the exams, please contact me *at least two weeks before the exam* so that appropriate arrangements can be made.