



**STAT 406, Methods for Statistical Learning,  
2018/19 Term 1  
Instructor: Matías Salibián-Barrera**

**Time and Place:** T/TR 8:00-9:30 AM, ESB 1012

**Course description:** Modern statistical learning methods, including: unsupervised learning methods, predictive models (linear and otherwise), variable selection methods, tree-based methods, neural networks, boosting, support vector machines, and robust estimators. Emphasis will be on applications and interpretation.

**Prerequisites:** One of STAT 306, CPSC 340.

**Textbook/course materials:** Although the course does not have a formal textbook, the following books will be useful references. They are available on-line from the university library.

An Introduction to Statistical Learning, James, G., Witten, D., Hastie, T., and Tibshirani, R., 2013, Springer, New York.

The Elements of Statistical Learning, Hastie, T., Tibshirani, R. and Friedman, J., 2009, 2nd edition, Springer, New York.

Modern Applied Statistics with S, Venables, W.N. and Ripley, B.D., 2002, 4th edition, Springer, New York.

**Topics:** Supervised and unsupervised learning. Prediction models: parametric (linear, non-linear) and non-parametric models. Variable selection: step-wise methods, sequencing, shrinkage methods. Regression and classification trees. Boosting. Random Forests. Neural Networks. Support Vector Machines for regression and classification. Robust estimators.

**Notes:** Stat 406 was formerly Stat 447B. Students will NOT be given credit for both Stat 406 and 447B

**Evaluation scheme:** please refer to the slides of Lecture 1, available on-line at <https://github.com/msalibian/STAT406/Lecture1>