

BUSN 5000

Weekly Schedule

Chris Cornwell

Fall 2025
(updated 09 Aug 25)

Class Room: Amos B010
Recitation Room: TBA

Class Hours: TR, 935a and 1110a
Recitation Hours: TBA

Deadlines

The *deadline* for submitting all homework and project assignments is *1159p* on the *due date*. *Late submissions will not be accepted.*

Week 0 (Aug 14, 18-22) :: Syllabus Day and Getting Started

Reading: [Healy, ch 2](#); BUSN 5000 R orientation and getting started guide

IRL: [“Brown Forman: How Posit allowed us to harness our data science and gain massive efficiencies”](#), Posit Customer Stories.

Due: Homework 0 – [Fri, Aug 22](#)

Week 1 (Aug 25-29) :: Data Fundamentals

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, ch 1; Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 1

IRL: [“How Bad Data Traps People in the US Justice System”](#), Ted Talks, April 2022.

Due: pre-Project exercise – [Mon, Aug 25](#)

Due: Homework 1 – [Fri, Aug 29](#)

Week 2 (Sep 1-5) :: Beginning to Learn

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, chs 2-3

IRL: [“What Can Uber Teach Us About the Gender Pay Gap?”](#), Freakonomics Radio, Episode 317.

Due: Homework 2 – [Fri, Sep 5](#)

Week 3 (Sep 8-12) :: Models for Exploration

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, ch 4; Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 2,4

IRL: “Two Paths for A.I.”, *The New Yorker*, 27 May 2025.

Due: Homework 3 – **Fri, Sep 12**

Week 4 (Sep 15-19) :: Making Inferences

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, chs 5-6; Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 6

IRL: “The Effects of Facebook and Instagram on the 2020 Election: A Deactivation Experiment”, *PNAS*, May 2024.

Due: Homework 4 – **Fri, Sep 19**

Week 5 (Sep 22-26) :: Measurement Error and Sample Selection

Reading: Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 16

IRL: “Using internal CPS data to reevaluate trends in labor-earnings gaps”, *Monthly Labor Review*, August 2009.

Due: Homework 5 – **Fri, Sep 26**

Week 6 (Sep 29-Oct 3) :: Confounding and the Bayesian Approach to Learning from Data

Reading: Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 15; “Bayes theorem, the geometry of changing beliefs”, 3Blue1Brown. 22 Dec 2019.

IRL: “Using Bayesian Updating to Improve Decisions under Uncertainty”, *California Management Review*, 2020.

Due: Project progress submission – **Fri, Oct 3**

Weeks 7-8 (Oct 6-10, 13-17) :: Regression Fundamentals + Part I Exam

Reading: Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 5; Bekes and Kedzi, chs 7-10; Angrist & Pischke, ch 2

IRL: “Anybody Can Win, but Everybody’s Gonna Lose”, *Against the Rules*, Season 4, Episode 10.

PART I EXAM: Thu, Oct 9 at 700p

Due: Homework 6 – **Fri, Oct 17**

Week 9 (Oct 20-24) :: Potential Outcomes and Causal Inference

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, chs 19-20; Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, chs 3, 9-11; Angrist & Pischke, ch 1

IRL: “The Cybernetic Teammate: A Field Experiment on Generative AI Reshaping Teamwork and Expertise”, Harvard Business School Strategy Unit Working Paper No. 25-043, 21 Mar 2025.

Due: Homework 7 – **Fri, Oct 24**

Week 10 (Oct 27-31) :: Regression Discontinuity

Reading: Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 12; Angrist & Pischke, ch 4

IRL: “[Does Advertising Actually Work? Part I](#)”, *Freakonomics Radio*, Episode 440.

Due: Homework 8 – **Fri, Oct 31**

Week 11 (Nov 3-7) :: Difference in Differences

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, ch 22; Bueno de Mesquita and Fowler, ch 13; Angrist & Pischke, ch 5

IRL: “[Does Advertising Actually Work? Part II](#)”, *Freakonomics Radio*, Episode 441.

Due: Homework 9 – **Fri, Nov 7**

Weeks 12-13 (Nov 10-14, 17-21) :: Introduction to Machine Learning

Reading: Bekes and Kedzi, chs 13-14; “[Machine Learning: An Applied Econometric Approach](#)”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Spring 2017.

IRL: “[In Defense of Zillow’s Besieged Data Scientists](#)”, Medium, 16 Nov 2021.

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE, Nov 12

Due: Homework 10 – **Fri, Nov 21**

Week 14 (Nov 24-25) :: Part II exam

PART II EXAM: Mon, Nov 24 at 700p

Week 15 :: Project submission

Due: Project final submission – **Tue, Dec 2**
