

# DSA 8070: Multivariate Analysis

## Fall 2025, Fully Online

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### Office Hours:

Weekly Zoom night sessions from 8:00 PM to 8:45 PM ET are scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays and are also available by appointment.

### Course Description:

*This course offers a practical introduction to multivariate analysis. Students will learn about the multivariate normal distribution; inference for mean vectors and covariance matrices; multivariate regression; repeated measures analysis; and modern techniques such as copula models, principal component analysis, factor analysis, classification, cluster analysis, multidimensional scaling, non-linear dimensionality reduction, and manifold learning, with a focus on real-world applications. Through hands-on projects and R sessions, students will gain the skills to uncover patterns, interpret relationships, and make informed decisions using multivariate data.*

### Reference Books:

- *Applied Multivariate Statistics with R*, **Daniel Zelterman**, 2015 [\[Link\]](#)
- *Modern Multivariate Statistical Techniques: Regression, Classification, and Manifold Learning*, **Alan Izenman**, 2008, [\[Link\]](#)
- *Methods of Multivariate Analysis*, 3<sub>rd</sub> Edition, **Alvin Rencher and William Christensen**, 2012 [\[Link\]](#)
- *Applied Multivariate Statistical Methods*, 6<sub>th</sub> Edition, **Richard Johnson and Dean Wichern**, 2008 [\[Link\]](#)

**Statistical Software:** The R project for Statistical Computing (<https://www.r-project.org/>) and RStudio (<https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/>), an integrated development environment (IDE) for R.

### Prerequisites:

- DSA 8010/8020 (Statistical Methods I/II)
- Basic statistical computing knowledge: R will be used

## Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. gain an understanding of standard multivariate techniques, their purposes, assumptions, and their limitations
2. select appropriate techniques for analyzing a multivariate data set
3. perform multivariate statistical analyses using a software package and interpret software output

## Statement of instructor/student interaction:

Students are expected to interact with each other and with the instructor on a weekly basis. Interactive discussions on course topics will take place in Discussion Board on Canvas.

## Attendance:

This course is entirely asynchronous. Successful students will engage with the course material each week and participate on a regular basis.

## Course Grading:

- Students will be expected to demonstrate ability in computation, critical statistical thinking, and clear communication of statistical methods and results. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Industrial Spotlight Attendance	5%
R Labs	20%
Project I	25%
Project II	25%
Project III	25%

- Final course grades will be assigned using the following grading scheme:

$\geq 90.00$	A
$88.00 \sim 89.99$	A-
$85.00 \sim 87.99$	B+
$80.00 \sim 84.99$	B
$78.00 \sim 79.99$	B-
$75.00 \sim 77.99$	C+
$70.00 \sim 74.99$	C
$68.00 \sim 69.99$	C-
$\leq 67.99$	F

## Artificial intelligence (AI) Statement:

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to complete assignments in this course is prohibited. AI-generated mathematical/statistical solutions do not demonstrate a student's understanding of mathematical/statistical processes and are, therefore, unacceptable. The submission of AI-generated responses will be considered a violation of the academic integrity policy.

## Key Dates:

Students can use **iROAR** to add courses through **Aug. 26, Tuesday**, to drop courses without record through **Sep. 3, Wednesday**, and to drop with a W grade through **Oct. 28, Tuesday**.

- **Sep. 1:** Labor Day holiday
- **Oct. 13 - Oct. 14:** Fall Break
- **Nov. 26 - Nov. 28:** Thanksgiving

## Make-up Work Due to Missed Attendance:

1. Students should speak with their course instructors regarding any scheduled absence as soon as possible and develop a plan for any make-up work.
2. In the event of an emergency, the student should make direct contact with the course instructor, preferably before a class or an exam takes place. It is the student's responsibility to secure documentation of emergencies, if required.
3. Course instructors must implement fair grading procedures and provide an opportunity to make up missed assignments and examinations that does not unfairly penalize the student. Issuing specific dates by which make up work must be submitted without confirmation from the student could constitute unfair penalization, as students with illness (including COVID-19-related illness) may not always respond in a timely manner. Such make-up work shall be at the same level of difficulty with the missed assignment or examination. Course instructors shall hold all students to the same standard for making up missed assignments or examinations.
4. While course instructors should seek to make reasonable accommodation for a student involved in University-sponsored activities, students should understand that not every course can accommodate absences and that absences do not lessen the need to meet all course objectives.

## Notification of Absence:

1. The Notification of Absence module in Canvas allows students to quickly notify instructors (via an email) of an absence from class and provides for the following categories: court attendance, death of family member, illness (or COVID-19 related isolation), illness of family member, injury, military duty, religious observance, scheduled surgery, university function, unscheduled hospitalization, other anticipated absence, or other unanticipated absence. The notification form requires a brief explanation, dates and times. Based on the dates and times

indicated, instructors are automatically selected, but students may decide which instructors will receive the notification. This does not serve as an “excuse” from class, and students are encouraged to discuss the absence with their instructors. If a student is unable to report the absence electronically, he/she may call the Office of Advocacy and Success at 656- 0935 for assistance and guidance.

2. The Office of Advocacy and Success also assists students in identifying various appropriate methods of documenting absences and assists families in using the electronic Notification of Absence system when students are unable to do so themselves.

### **Class Participation:**

Due to the possibility that students might shift to online learning while in isolation/quarantine, class participation grades need to be structured in ways that do not penalize students that are suddenly unable to attend class in person. Instructors are encouraged to shift class participation assessment and point/grade allocation to other engaged activities that all students can accomplish, even those accessing the course remotely.

### **Policies on Incompletes and Medical Withdrawals:**

1. Issuing an “Incomplete” grade (I) to a student is an option if a student is unable to complete makeup work in a timely manner due to COVID-19 related illness or other issues. An Incomplete indicates that a relatively small part of the semester’s work remains undone. It is not intended for students who are failing a course otherwise. In the event that an Incomplete is appropriate, students will contact instructors in a timely manner so that instructors can provide a reasonable opportunity to complete remaining work. Instructors and students will work together to resolve the Incomplete grade as soon as possible, not to exceed thirty days from the first day of classes in the next scheduled session (excluding summer sessions and regardless of the student’s enrollment status). More information on an Incomplete grade can be found in the Undergraduate Catalog.
2. Sometimes due to illness (including COVID-19 related illness) or other life circumstances, students may not be able to complete academic work for the term and will need to withdraw from all classes. The Division of Undergraduate Studies will process medical withdrawals. Students should contact the Division by sending an email from their Clemson email address to Lisa Traynham at [lltrayn@clemson.edu](mailto:lltrayn@clemson.edu).

If you report testing positive for COVID or have been asked to quarantine/isolate because of exposure to the virus, it will be up to you to inform your instructor that you will be moving to online only instruction for at least the next two weeks. Students are directed to use the Notification of Absence module in Canvas to initiate this notification. Additional communication via email is encouraged; you should follow up with your instructor to develop a continued plan of study.

### **Academic Integrity Statement:**

“As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson’s vision of this institution as a ‘high seminary of learning.’ Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust

and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form. In instances where academic standards may have been compromised, Clemson University has a responsibility to respond appropriately to charges of violations of academic integrity.”

Please refer to the current Graduate School Policy Handbook for the graduate academic integrity policy.

### **Disability Access Statement:**

It is university policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should make an appointment with Disability Services (656-6848), to discuss specific needs within the first month of classes. Students should present a Faculty Accommodation Letter from Student Disability Services when they meet with instructors. Accommodations are not retroactive and new Faculty Accommodation Letters must be presented each semester.

### **Title IX Statement:**

Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran’s status, genetic information or protected activity (e.g., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in any complaint process, etc.) in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The University is committed to combatting sexual harassment and sexual violence. As a result, you should know that University faculty and staff members who work directly with students are required to report any instances of sexual harassment and sexual violence, to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual harassment, sexual violence or misconduct, stalking, domestic and/or relationship violence that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware. There are two important exceptions to this requirement about which you should be aware: Confidential Resources and facilitators of sexual awareness programs such as “Take Back the Night and Aspire to be Well” when acting in those capacities, are not required to report incidents of sexual discrimination. Another important exception to the reporting requirement exists for academic work. Disclosures about sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking, domestic and/or relationship violence that are shared as part of an academic project, a research project, classroom discussion, or course assignment, are not required to be disclosed to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. This policy is located at <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/access/non-discrimination-policy.html>. Ms. Alesia Smith is the Executive Director for Equity Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator. Her office is located at 223 Holtzendorff Hall, phone number is 864.656.3181, and email address is [alesias@clemson.edu](mailto:alesias@clemson.edu).

### **Inclement Weather:**

Any exam that was scheduled at the time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be given at the next class meeting unless contacted by the instructor. Any assignments due at the

time of a class cancellation due to inclement weather will be due at the next class meeting unless contacted by the instructor. Any extension or postponement of assignments or exams must be granted by the instructor via email or Canvas within 24 hours of the weather related cancellation.

## Academic Continuity Plan for this Class:

Clemson has developed an academic continuity plan for academic operations. Should University administration officially determine that the physical classroom facility is not available, class will be conducted in a virtual (online) format. The University issues official disruption notifications through email/ www/ test notification / social media. When notified, use one of the following links to navigate for Clemson Canvas, where you will find important information about how we will conduct class:

- Primary access link: [www.clemson.edu/canvas](http://www.clemson.edu/canvas)
- Secondary access link, if needed: <https://clemson.instructure.com/>
- You can also use the Canvas Student App.

Our activities for teaching and learning will occur through our Canvas course. This includes: assignments, quizzes

## Topics:

Week	Dates	Topic
1	8/20 - 8/22	Introduction and Multivariate Data Exploration
2	8/25 - 8/28	A Short Review of Matrix Algebra
3	9/2 - 9/5	Multivariate Normal Distributions and Copula Models
4	9/9 - 9/12	Inference and Comparison of Mean Vectors
5	9/15 - 9/19	Multivariate Regression I
6	9/22 - 9/26	Multivariate Regression II
7	9/29 - 10/3	Inference for Covariance Matrix
8	10/6 - 10/19	Principal Components Analysis
9	10/13 - 10/17	Factor Analysis
10	10/20 - 10/24	Canonical Correlation Analysis
11	10/27 - 10/31	Discrimination and Classification
12	11/3 - 11/7	Cluster Analysis
13	11/10 - 11/15	Multidimensional Scaling and Distance Embedding
14	11/17 - 11/21	Manifold Learning and Nonlinear Embedding Methods
15	11/24 - 11/28	<b>No Class–Thanksgiving</b>
16	12/1 - 12/5	Review