Instructor: Konstantinos Spiliopoulos
Office: 111 Cummington Street, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Room MCS 222
Email: kspiliop@math.bu.edu
Course web-page: http://math.bu.edu/people/kspiliop/F18MA115.html
Meets: Tue-Thu 2:00 - 3:15pm at CAS 224
Text: *Statistics, Informed Decisions Using Data*, 5th edition, Michael Sullivan, III, Pearson
Prerequisites: A very good background in high school algebra.
Teaching Fellow: TBA

Course Description: This course is an introduction to basic concepts and tools in statistics and probability. First, we learn how to describe data. Second, we study the elements of probability theory. Third, we combine data description and probability theory to develop statistical inference procedures. Students will learn and acquire a variety of skills in analyzing and reasoning from data.

Class attendance: It is very important that you attend lectures and discussion sections being prepared every time and that you come on time and leave only at the end of the class. This is necessary in order for both you and for your fellow students to get the most out of the class and prepare for the exams.

Tutoring: Visit the Math Help Room (MCS B24) for free tutoring provided by math graduate students.

Tentative grading policy: Your grade will be based on :(a) Homework (20%), (b) two midterm exams (25% each) and a final exam (30%). The grading policy may change according to the progress of the class.

Incompletes and Withdrawals (I & W): A grade of incomplete will be given only to students who have maintained a **perfect record** through most of the course and suddenly they find themselves in a difficult situation such as a serious illness or death in the family. Everyone else who finds early in the semester that is not keeping up is advised to drop or withdraw from the course. Keep in mind the University deadlines for withdrawal.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and one final exam. The exam material for each one of the two exams will be announced in class and posted on the webpage of the course. The final exam will by cumulative. All exams are closed books and notes. Credit will be given for full answers only. It is more important to show your work than just the final answer.

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Homeworks: Homework will be weakly and it will be both online and offline. Usually it will be a due a week after in class, which will also be announced in class. Needless to say, you should work on the homework on your own, unless otherwise instructed by me. The lowest two homeworks will be dropped, if you participate in class. **No late homeworks will be accepted.**

Important Dates:
Midterm I: Thursday, October 4 during regular class time
Midterm II: Thursday, November 8 during regular class time
Final: TBA

Blackboard: All course announcements including supplementing material, offline homework questions and lecture notes will be available at blackboard. Online homework and **only** online homework will be done through the book publisher's website for the course www.pearsonmylabs.com.

Make-up policy: Make up exams (midterms and final) will be given only in extreme circumstances, and only when accompanied by appropriate documentation. Any student with a valid reason to be given a make up exam must contact me **prior** to the exam, either by email or in person, and present documentation at the next class session attended. No exceptions to this rule will be made.

Cheating: No form of cheating or plagiarism will be tolerated. University's policy and my policy are very strict here.