

Statistics for Lawyers
Law 744-001
TR 9:00-10:20

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Office Hours: TR 10:20-11:20

Purpose: This course will provide students with a background that prepares them to be informed critical consumers of statistical analyses as they arise in litigation and public policy settings.

Text: Michael O. Finkelstein, *Basic Concepts of Probability and Statistics in the Law* (Springer 2009) – denoted MOF; Federal Judicial Center, *Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence*, 3rd ed. (National Academies Press 2011) available free online – denoted FJC.

Evaluation: Grades will be based completely on the students' performance on a cumulative take home open book exam comprised of statistical problems, analysis, and interpretation.

Problem Sets: Regular problem sets (and answers) will be posted on the course portal. While these problem sets will not directly influence grades (in fact, they will not be collected or graded), they will provide the best preparation for the exam.

Schedule:

September 1: Introduction – FJC: Admissibility of Expert Testimony

September 3: Probability – MOF: Chapters 1 & 3; FJC: Reference Guide on DNA Identification Evidence

September 4: Make-Up (8:30-10:30)

September 8:

September 10: Descriptive Statistics – FJC: Reference Guide on Statistics; MOF: Chapters 2 & 5

September 15:

September 17:

September 18: Make-Up (8:30-10:30)

September 22: Inferential Statistics – MOF: Chapters 8, 4, 6, & 7

September 24: No Class (to be made up)

September 29:

October 1: Regression Analysis – FJC: Ref Guide on Multiple Regression; MOF: Chapters 11-12

October 2: Make-Up (8:30-10:30)

October 6:

October 8:

October 9: Make-Up (8:30-10:30)

October 13: Research Design – MOF: Chapter 9

October 15: No Class (to be made up)

October 20:

October 22: No Class (to be made up)

October 27: No Class (to be made up)

October 29: No Class (to be made up)

November 3:

November 5:

November 10:

November 12: No Class (to be made up)

November 17:

November 19:

November 24:

November 26: No Class (Thanksgiving)

December 1:

December 3: Review