

University of Toronto
Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences

STAB57: an Introduction to Statistics

Course information and Policies

taught by Louis de Thanhoffer de Volcsey

[-email me](#)

[-website](#)

Office: IC 469

Phone: (416) 208.2783

Prerequisite:

The Prerequisite for this course is STAB52: *an Introduction to probability*. In the course of the first week a prerequisite check will be done by myself. This includes approving possibly equivalent prerequisites (such as a similar course taught at St. George or a transfer credit) on a case by case basis, be aware that if you do not have the official prerequisite you may be removed from the course

Textbook

[-textbook](#)

The textbook is *Probability and Statistics, the science of uncertainty, 2nd Ed.* by Evans and Rosenthal. It can be found through the link above or on the [course website](#)

Email Protocol:

To ensure your email gets to me and that I respond, make sure you:

- send from your academic email address to mine (I don't respond to personal emails)
- include your name/ student ID (this guarantees I correctly identify you) and the course (I teach multiple)
- write in correct, legible english
- motivate whatever request you may have
- check your request can be fulfilled by me as opposed to a TA (see [Teaching Assistants](#))

I may not always respond to your email (randomly asking for a grade change without a valid reason is a good example). If you do follow the protocol, you will get a response from me within 2 business days.

Course Communication and Materials:

The communication and materials will go as follows:

- All course information, documents, assignments, solved quizzes, solved midterms can be found on the [course website](#)
- your grades are posted on the grade center of [Blackboard](#)
- All announcements will be sent to your academic email.

Grading Scheme and Schedule:

Section	date	weight
Quiz 1	week 3	~ 5%
Quiz 2	week 5	~ 5%
Midterm	week 6	~ 30%
Quiz 3	week 7	~ 5%
Quiz 4	week 9	~ 5%
Quiz 5	week 11	~ 5%
Final	Dec 7th-20th	~ 40%

Teaching Assistants

After you enroll in a tutorial, you will be assigned a teaching assistant. They play an integral role in this course. Their responsibilities include

- preparing and holding a tutorial session based off the assignment posted the week before
- holding weekly office hours
- Help you solve any problems on the assignments either during tutorials or office hours
- drafting, grading and posting your marks for the quizzes as well as returning them to you in your next tutorial session.
- Helping me grade the midterm as well as posting the marks and returning your papers during Week 8
- Keeping you informed of any necessary announcements pertaining to their responsibilities via email.

A full list of the teaching staff together with their relevant information will be posted on the [course website](#) during Week 1.

Assignments:

Assignments will be posted on the [course website](#) weekly. They will contain practice problems, relevant to the study sections from the textbook as well as extra problems that you are strongly encouraged to attempt and discuss during office hours if need be. They are not to be handed in, nor will explicit solutions be posted.

Tutorials

You must be enrolled in a tutorial no later than the end of Week 1. There are **no tutorials** during Week 1. In each tutorial, the first 30 minutes will either be dedicated to writing a quiz or reviewing the solutions depending on the [grading schedule](#)

Lectures

The lectures will take place on

Mondays 3-5pm and Wednesday 3-4pm in SW143

- there will be no notes posted in order to encourage you to take your own notes and attend the lectures.
- I will follow the textbook closely, but will also provide extra material, historic background and context outside of the textbook during the lectures
- Each week a short summary of the lecture will be posted on the [course website](#)

Quizzes

One fifth of your grade will be earned in the form of quizzes which you will write in the tutorial you are enrolled in. A few things you should know:

- Only tutorial quizzes completed in your tutorial will be marked. If you write a quiz in a tutorial you are not formally registered in, your score will be 0 on that quiz. There are **no** make-up tutorial quizzes for this course, nor can you switch tutorial quizzes under **any** circumstance.
- You will get a formal announcement via email the week before the quiz which will contain exactly which textbook sections will be covered.
- Each quiz comprises of three questions which test your basic knowledge of the material roughly covered in the past two weeks
- Quizzes are drafted by the TA's and marked and not by myself.
- Each quiz will be carefully marked out of 30 and rescaled out of 10 on the [Blackboard](#) grade center.
- Your lowest score out of the 5 quizzes will be **dropped by default**

Midterm

The midterm will take place during week 6 and will account for roughly 30% of your grade. It will be of 3 hours and most likely will consist of 5 questions of which the last one is true or false (argue or give an example). As we get closer to Week 6, I will post a little more information on the midterm as well as the exact list of things you should know in order to prepare.

Final

The final will take place sometime after week 12 and will account for roughly 40% of your grade. Again, it will be 3 hours long and most likely will consist of around 5 questions of which the last one is a true or false (argue or give an example). As we get closer to the date, I will also post a little more information on the format as well as the exact list of things you should know in order to prepare.

Office Hours:

Both myself and the teaching staff will hold regular office hours in IC 460 where you can get all your questions answered. Please take advantage of that as much as you can, we are here to help. A schedule of office hours will be posted on the [course website](#) during Week 1

Missing a Quiz, the Midterm or Final

There are different rules in case you miss a quiz, midterm or final:

if you miss any graded work:

- for medical reasons, send me a compensation request and explanation (CRE) in the same week.
- The CRE must include your name/ student ID, signature, tutorial number, the name of an authenticating second party as well as their position, signature, and a statement of the very good reason why you missed the test.
- You may also be eligible for compensation in case of an accident/injury, religious/legal obligations or family catastrophes.
- work obligations, extra-curricular activities, slight illness, misreading the time of day or location, lateness, course conflicts, transportation issues will not be considered valid reason,

if you miss a quiz:

- if this happens only once, it's not an issue as your lowest score gets dropped by default
- If you miss a quiz more than once you may still be entitled to compensation following the specifications above.
- There are no make-up quizzes for this course, nor can you write the quiz in another tutorial , instead, your score on that quiz will simply be nullified.

If you miss the midterm:

- A make-up test will be planned shortly after the original session. You must take part in that one.

If you miss the final:

- This is a serious matter and is therefore not addressed at course-administrative level. The UTSC policy on missing a final exam can be found [here](#)

Regrade policy

The regrade policy differs depending on the grade work: For quizzes

- Request will be considered only if a clear and blatant mistake was made on the part of the teaching staff (marks will **not** get renegotiated). If you are not sure about why an answer was marked, you can always just ask the TA. . .
- If you feel a regrade is justified, please contact your TA with all student information explaining clearly where the mistake in the grading was made and include a scanned copy of the quiz
- The TA will evaluate your request and get back to you in case of approval.

For the midterm:

- Again, requests will only be considered if a clear and blatant mistake was made on the part of the teaching staff
- If you feel your midterm should be regraded, please contact me directly, with your information as well as the exact nature of the error you believe was made and a scanned copy of the midterm
- If I agree to the request, I will get back to you. Your request will only be confirmed after you receive an email from me

For the final:

- the rules to regrade the final are not addressed at course-administrative level. The UTSC policy on regrading happens in two steps and can be found [here](#)

Further Administrative Problems

Direct any of your course administrative issues such as technical issues, AccessAbility issues, tutorial/TA concerns, missing gradework to me directly. Ideally via [email](#) to make sure there is a record of the request in case. If the matter is sensitive please come by my office on the days of the lecture

Your Responsibilities:

As a student in STAB57, you are responsible for the following:

- enrolling in a tutorial no later than the end of Week 1.
- memorizing all the necessary information pertaining to your tutorial, including your TA, tutorial nr etc ...
- Making sure your grades get entered correctly and letting us know within **2 weeks** if there is a technical issue made by the teaching staff.
- Sending the appropriate documentation **within the week** for any compensation request.
- Attend all of your lectures and tutorials, and to not disrupt any of these by irrelevant talking, electronic activity, or other annoying behavior.
- Have the necessary prerequisites.
- Read and know the contents of this General Course Information Sheet and keep track of all announcements sent to you via email.
- all students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the University of Toronto Code of Behavior and Code of Student Conduct found in the UTSC Calendar and the UTSC Registrar's website.

The information on this General information sheet is subject to change