

San José State University (6/15/2017)  
Economics 180, *Statistics Lab*, Section 1, FA 17

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<b>Office Hours* / Location:</b>	Wednesdays, 4:20 - 4:50p.m. & by appointment / DMH 131
<b>Lecture Room/ Lab Room</b>	NA -- This is an online class with no physical meeting location
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	STAT 95 or other three-unit intro statistics class

\*Email is my preferred form of communication. Also, during final exam week, office hours are by appointment only.

### Faculty Web Page, Canvas and Communication Issues

Canvas is the Learning Management System at SJSU. Please be sure you can log in and are receiving my announcements. Although I will be communicating with the class through Canvas, if you have an individual question for me, please email me directly. For info on accessing Canvas visit <https://sjsu.instructure.com>.

### Course Description

This course is designed to complement and add to a three-unit, traditional statistics class. All economics students require a solid foundation in statistics. In this course, students will use actual data to conduct original statistical analysis. The class will not meet physically and all assignments and announcements will be through Canvas. Please pay close attention to announcements and deadlines.

### Course and Program Learning Objectives (CLOs and PLOs)

This course emphasizes three PLOs: *research methods* (ECON PLO3), *quantitative methods* (PLO4d), and *communication* (PLO5). The five specific Course Learning Objectives for ECON 180 include:  
CLO 1.) Explain core methods in statistics and identify correct procedures. CLO 2.) Access data and use computer software to carry out statistical tests. CLO 3.) Interpret statistical tests estimated with computer software. CLO 4.) format data to be read by regression software, and develop, estimate and interpret an original statistical test to shed light on a problem of social importance. CLOs 1, 2 and 3 will be assessed with weekly lab assignments, and CLO 4 by a term paper.

### Textbooks

Angrist, J. D. and Pischke, J. 2014. *Mastering Metrics*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ.  
(You will need the Introduction and Chapter 1, both of which can be downloaded at the following link:  
<http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10363.html> )

Illowsky, B. and Dean, S. 2016. *Introductory Statistics*, Open Stax Press, Houston, TX.  
(Download the entire book at the following link: <https://openstax.org/details/introductory-statistics>)

### Required Computer Software

All students should have installed on their home machines a spreadsheet program, preferably MS Excel

### Assignments and Grading

Total points on all assignments sum to 25. Passing this class requires earning at least 10 Weekly Lab Assignment points AND at least 6 Term Paper points. In the table below you will find the total points associated with these assignments. Explanations for each of these assignments follow the table.

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Due Dates</i>
Weekly Lab Assignments	<b>15</b> (1 point each)	Fridays @ 5:00p.m.
Term Paper	<b>10</b> (3 points for outline, 3 for draft, & 4 for final paper)	Outline 10/1, Draft 11/1, Final Paper 12/1

## Weekly Lab Assignments

The Lab Assignments are designed to give you experience using computer software and carrying out statistical tests, and exploring statistical concepts, with actual data. Points on these Lab Assignments are easy to earn; if you make an honest attempt at them, and submit them before 5:00p.m. on Fridays, you will usually earn the full point. Late assignments are accepted for partial credit on a case by case basis. Descriptions for weekly assignments are found on Canvas. Answers will be provided on Canvas.

## Term Paper

Students will carry out an original statistical analysis on a question of practical or scholarly importance, using data from the American Community Survey that the student will download as part of a lab assignment. After developing a research question, and formulating a hypothesis, the main tasks involved in carrying out an applied statistical study include: identifying formatting the data for analysis, analyzing the data using appropriate statistical techniques, and producing tables that summarize the data and report the results of the analysis. The term paper will also briefly survey econometric literature and describe economic theory that relates to the question.

All papers must have five sections with the following section titles: Introduction, Literature Review and Economic Theory, Description of Data, Empirical Results, and Conclusion. In addition, all papers must have the following three tables: Variable Descriptions, Summary Statistics, and Hypothesis Test Results. These tables must be formatted exactly as described on Canvas. Students will see an example of the type of tables that satisfy the requirements of this assignment in the first Weekly Lab Assignment.

## University Policies

### Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

## **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.