



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

# **SYLLABUS: STAT 3301 AU 2024**

## **Statistical Modeling For Discovery I**

### **M W F 12:40 PM-1:35 PM**

## **Course overview**

### **Instructor**

Instructor: Steephanson Anthonymuthu

Email address: [anthonymuthu.1@osu.edu](mailto:anthonymuthu.1@osu.edu)

Office: Zoom Room

Zoom office hours: Tuesday 09:00 am – 10:00 am, or by appointment.

Zoom link: Available on Carmen

### **Grader:**

Grader: Yeming Lin

Email address: [lin.4466@osu.edu](mailto:lin.4466@osu.edu)

### **Course description**

Statistical models for data analysis in the linear regression framework. The challenges of developing meaningful models for data are explored, with emphasis on the model building process, the use of numerical and graphical diagnostics for assessing model fit, and interpretation and communication of results. Statistical foundations are introduced along with basic inferential techniques.

Prerequisite: C- or better in 3202; or 4202 and 5730; or permission of the instructor. Prereq or concur: Math 2568; or permission of the instructor.

## Course delivery

This course meets **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays via Zoom from 12:40 PM-1:35 PM**. Lectures will be delivered via Zoom during the scheduled class meeting times.

Students are expected to attend and participate in these in-person class meetings. Class meetings will be used to provide in-depth investigation of the topics for the week using a lecture format. Students will participate in these class sessions by engaging in discussions prompted by the instructor and by asking and answering questions. Students should plan to take notes during class.

## Carmen

This class will use Carmen. In Carmen, you will find copies of the syllabus, homework assignments, lecture notes and other important documents. Carmen will also be used to keep track of your assignment grades. Additionally, materials for lectures will be uploaded to Carmen.

## Course learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should successfully be able to:

- Use graphical and numerical summaries of data to describe relationships between variables.
- Formulate, fit, evaluate, and compare regression models that describe relationships between variables.
- Understand and be able to describe the statistical foundations of standard regression models.
- Identify common violations of the assumptions that underly standard regression models.
- Perform a complete regression analysis and communicate the results in both statistical and problem-specific terms.
- Distinguish between descriptive and causal interpretations of regression.

## Course materials

### Required

We will use the textbook ***Applied Linear Regression, Fourth Edition (2014)* by Sanford Weisberg**. An electronic version of the book can be accessed for free through The Ohio State University Libraries at <https://library.ohio-state.edu/record=b7651844~S7>. You will need to click on “Connect to resource EBSCOhost”; you may also need to supply your OSU credentials. The online resource is best suited for screen reading; each individual is allowed to print/e-mail/save/download a limited number of pages.

## Course technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at <https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours>, and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** <http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice>
- **Phone:** 614-688-HELP (4357)
- **Email:** [8help@osu.edu](mailto:8help@osu.edu)
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

## Technology skills necessary for this specific course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen
- Collaborating in CarmenWiki

## Necessary equipment

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 10+) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed (if virtual office hours)
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone

## Necessary software

- This class requires you to use the statistical software package called R (The R Project for Statistical Computing; <http://www.r-project.org/>). This software package is available as Free Software.
  - You can download R for Windows, Mac, and Linux, from the CRAN archive at <https://cran.r-project.org>.
- An easy-to-use interface to R is available in the software package RStudio. This package is available for Windows, Mac, and Linux and can be downloaded for free from <http://rstudio.org>. **Note that RStudio requires R to be installed.**
- This class requires the use of the (free) R Markdown authoring framework to complete assignments. Information about R Markdown will be provided in class; an online guide with overview information can be found at <https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com>.

## TopHat

- We may use TopHat for quizzes. Students are also required to register with TopHat, which is free for Ohio State University students. Please go to the TopHat home page (<https://tophat.com/>) and either login (<https://app.tophat.com/login>) or signup for an

account (<https://app.tophat.com/register/>). Make sure you are using the latest version of the app or are accessing it through a browser.

- TopHat is already connected to the CarmenCanvas course, so it should be listed as one of your courses when you sign in. If not, you can use the join code (**code TBA**). Please contact your instructor if you have difficulty accessing TopHat. You are expected to own a device (phone, tablet, laptop, etc.) that can access TopHat.

## Grading and faculty response

### Grades

Assignment or category	Percentage
In class Quizzes	5
Homework	25
Midterm 1	15
Midterm 2	15
Comprehensive Data Analysis project	15
Statistical Inference Quote	5
Final Exam	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**Quizzes** will be given frequently during the lectures and outside of classroom using **Carmen** and/or, **TopHat**, and you must be in the classroom to take the quizzes for in-class quizzes. These short quizzes are meant to motivate you to participate actively in classroom activities and keep you up with the material introduced during class. Also, it gives you incentivize attendance and participation. These quizzes will not be made up and if you do not attend lecture, you cannot attempt, submit, or receive credit for these assignments. The quizzes are open book / open notes, and **you are strongly encouraged to work together with your neighbors in the classroom**. I will drop your lowest quiz score when computing your quiz grade for the semester.

**Homework** will be assigned approximately weekly and will be due on Carmen. The due date will be announced with the homework assignments. Homework problems that require R software should be completed in R Markdown and a knitted html file should be uploaded. Homework problems that do not require R may be handwritten (electronically, or on paper and scanned)

and uploaded. **You are encouraged to work together on homework; however, each student must produce their own assignment to be handed in. Do not copy any part of another student's homework.** I will drop your lowest homework score (which could be an assignment that was never turned in) when calculating your final homework grade for the semester.

### **Comprehensive Data Analysis:**

There will be an individual, comprehensive data analysis project that will be completed in parts throughout the semester. The data analysis will have three components, with due dates spread throughout the semester:

- Part I: Exploratory data analysis (due mid-October)
- Part II: Preliminary model building and analysis (due mid-November)
- Part III: Model expansion, checking and summarization (due by the end of the semester)

Information about each of the three components will be given during the semester. Each part will count for 5% of the final course grade so that the entire data analysis project counts for 15% of the final course grade. There will be no homework due during the weeks in which a part of the comprehensive data analysis is due.

## **Late assignments**

Late assignments (Homework and Data Analysis projects) will be accepted for 24 hours after the original due date with a **1% deduction per hour**. After this, no late assignments will be accepted. Do not wait until the last moment to begin working on assignments. Unexpected obstacles will occur in life - it is your responsibility to be prepared for them. If something unexpected comes up 2 hours before an assignment is due that impedes your ability to submit on time, then you should have started the assignment earlier. Submitting the wrong document - such as the blank assignment template, an incomplete version, or a corrupted version of the file - is not a valid excuse. It is your responsibility to ensure you have submitted the correct document in the correct format to the correct Carmen submission location.

“Can I please have an extension on my assignment?”

Yes! You may have up to 24 extra hours, with a 1% deduction per hour. Beyond that, no late assignments will be accepted.

However, in case of an emergency or exceptional circumstances (sudden onset of illness, unexpected family situations, etc.) arise and you are unable to submit after the original due, contact the instructor to discuss the possibility of an extension.

### **Exams:**

There will be two midterms and one final exam administered during the semester to assess your understanding of the course material as the semester progresses. The final exam will take place at the time and date established by the University. Information about the exams will be posted well in advance on Carmen. **Exams must be completed without any external help or communication.** The information about the exams given below.

Midterm Exam 1:  
**Wednesday October 02, 2024**

Midterm Exam 2:  
**Wednesday November 06, 2024**

Final exam:  
**Tuesday December 12, 2024, from 2PM-3:45PM**

Generally, make-up exams will not be given. However, make-up exams may be given in case of an emergency or exceptional circumstances (sudden onset of illness, unexpected family situations, etc.) or due to conflicts with other university activities with proper documentation. If for some reason you are unable to make the exams, please contact me as soon as possible. Late requests may be denied, or penalties may be assessed.

If you find a discrepancy in the grading of a midterm exam (e.g., incorrect addition/subtraction, correct answer marked incorrect, etc.) then you must bring it to my attention (through email) no later than **one week** from the day the exams are returned. After that grades will typically not be changed.

## **Grade Disputes**

It is extremely important that you pay attention to your grades on a regular basis. If you feel that an assignment has been graded incorrectly or unfairly, you must speak with your instructor within **one week** of getting your grade on that assignment. We will not re-grade assignments at the end of the semester or offer any extra credit if you are not satisfied at that time with your final course grade, especially since you will have known all semester what is expected of you to earn your desired grade in this course.

We believe strongly that grades are earned, not given. If you need to achieve a certain grade in this course, be careful to complete all assignments, plan appropriate time for studying, come to office hours/tutor room and ask questions, review feedback you receive on graded activities so you can talk to us about any problems you missed, and get help as needed in order to achieve your goal. We hope your grade in the course will be just as important to you on Day 1 as it is at the end of the semester, especially since you will have known the expectations of this course all semester and are in control of deciding what grade to earn. We do not bump grades at the end of the semester, we do not have extra credit and we cannot change grades based on a person's circumstances. Do not expect your exams to be curved; they may or may not depending on how the class does. We do not curve the final total points at the end.

**IMPORTANT! Keep track of your grades!!**

## Faculty feedback and response time

I am providing the following to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-HELP** if you have a technical problem.)

### Grading and feedback

For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**.

### E-mail

I will reply to e-mails within **24 hours on school days**. Specific technical questions about the course material that require significant back-and-forth communication are not well suited for e-mail; while I will do my best to answer such questions, I may ask that you attend office hours if your question isn't easily answerable over email.

## Grading scale

93–100: A  
90–92.9: A-  
87–89.9: B+  
83–86.9: B  
80–82.9: B-  
77–79.9: C+  
73–76.9: C  
70–72.9: C-  
67–69.9: D+  
60–66.9: D  
Below 60: E

## Attendance, participation, and discussions

### Student participation requirements

The following is a summary of everyone's expected participation:

- **Attending in-person class meetings: THREE TIMES PER WEEK**  
Students are expected to attend and participate in the in-person class meetings.
- **Logging in: AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**  
Be sure you are logging in to the course in Carmen each week, including weeks with holidays. You will need to log in to Carmen to complete quizzes, view lecture content

and upload homework assignments. (During most weeks you will probably log in many times.) If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with me as soon as possible.

- **Office hours:**

You are encouraged to attend office hours for assistance. If you need to speak with me privately about a topic that cannot be easily discussed during office hours, please contact me to schedule a time to meet.

## Discussion and communication guidelines

The following are my expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

- **Writing style:** While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Informality (including an occasional emoticon) is fine for non-academic topics.
- **Tone and civility:** Let's maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn't always come across online.
- **Citing your sources:** When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. (For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.)
- **Backing up your work:** Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, where you can save your work, and then copying into the Carmen discussion.

## Other course policies

### Health and safety

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center's Coronavirus Outbreak site (<https://wexnermedical.osu.edu/features/coronavirus>) includes the latest information about COVID-19 as well as guidance for students, faculty and staff.

I expect that you will read and follow the guidelines and requirements for campus safety, which are available at <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu>.

### Student academic services

Student academic services offered on the OSU main campus  
<http://advising.osu.edu/welcome.shtml>.



## Student support services

Student support services offered on the OSU main campus <http://ssc.osu.edu>.

## Academic integrity policy

### Policies for this course

- **Exams:** You must complete the midterm and final exams yourself, without any external help or communication.
- **Written assignments:** Your written assignments, should be your own original work. In formal assignments, you should cite the ideas and words of your research sources. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in, but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.
- **Reusing past work:** In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to build on past research or revisit a topic you've explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with me.
- **Collaboration and informal peer-review:** The course includes many opportunities for formal collaboration with your classmates. While study groups and peer-review of major written projects is encouraged, remember that comparing answers on a quiz or assignment is not permitted. If you're unsure about a particular situation, please feel free to ask the instructor.

### Ohio State's academic integrity policy

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

## Copyright disclaimer

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course. **No course materials provided by the instructor (notes, videos, recordings, computer code, homework assignments, homework solutions, quizzes, exams, etc.) may be distributed publicly or privately to anyone outside of the class.**

## Statement on title IX

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu)

## Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

*“The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.*

*If you are isolating while waiting for a COVID-19 test result, please let me know immediately. Those testing positive for COVID-19 should refer to the [Safe and Healthy Buckeyes site](#) for resources. Beyond five days of the required COVID-19 isolation period, I may rely on Student Life Disability Services to establish further reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; or [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu).”*

## Accessibility of course technology

This course requires use of Carmen (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

- [Carmen \(Canvas\) accessibility](#)
- Streaming audio and video
- Synchronous course tools

## Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting [ccs.osu.edu](https://ccs.osu.edu) or calling 614- 292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273- TALK or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

## Weather or other short-term closing University

*Should in-person classes be canceled, I will notify you as to which alternative methods of teaching (Zoom lectures or other modes) will be offered to ensure continuity of instruction for this class. Communication will be via Carmen, email or other mode of communication.*

## Religious Accommodations

Our inclusive environment allows for religious expression. If you need to request accommodations based on faith, religious or a spiritual belief system in regard to examinations, other academic requirements or absences, please provide your course instructor with written notice of specific dates for which you need alternative accommodations at the earliest possible date.

*It is Ohio State's policy to reasonably accommodate the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of all students. The policy permits a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief.*

*Students planning to use religious beliefs or practices accommodations for course requirements must inform the instructor in writing no later than 14 days after the course begins. The instructor is then responsible for scheduling an alternative time and date for the course requirement, which may be before or after the original time and date of the course requirement. These alternative accommodations will remain confidential. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all course assignments are completed.*

For more information about religious accommodations at Ohio State, visit [odi.osu.edu/religious-accommodations](https://odi.osu.edu/religious-accommodations).

## Course Schedule (tentative)

The following tentative course schedule is subject to change.

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 21-23	Introduction, summarizing data in R
2	Aug 28–Sep 1	Relationships between variables
3	Sep 4-8	Intro to simple linear regression (SLR), parameter estimation
4	Sep 11-15	Inference and prediction under SLR models
5	Sep 18-22	Sources of variability, coefficient of determination, residuals
6	Sep 25-29	Transformations of regressors and response variables
7	Oct 2-6	Multiple linear regression: estimation, inference and prediction
8	Oct 9-13	Interpreting coefficients, correlated predictors
9	Oct 16-20	Regression with categorical and continuous regressors
10	Oct 23-27	Multiple categorical regressors, comparing nested models
11	Oct 30-Nov 3	Nonlinear relationships and polynomial regression
12	Nov 6-10	Regression model diagnostics
13	Nov 13-17	Common violations of independence
14	Nov 20-24	Descriptive versus causal interpretations of regression
15	Nov 27–Dec 1	Approaches to model comparison
16	Dec 4-6	Approaches to model selection

### Holidays:

- Sep 2, 2014: Labor Day - no classes
- Oct 11, 2024: Autumn break - no classes
- Nov 11, 2024: Veterans Day - no classes
- Nov 27-28, 2024: Thanksgiving - no classes
- Nov 29, 2024: Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day - no classes

## **Disclaimer**

**This syllabus should be taken as a fairly reliable guide for the course content. However, you cannot claim any rights from it and in particular we reserve the right to change due dates or the methods of grading and/or assessment if necessary. Any changes will be communicated to you through official course announcements.**