

COURSE INFORMATION

Course title:	Descriptive and Predictive Business Analytics		
Course code:	BABS 507	Credits:	1.5
Session, term, period:	2020W1, Period 1	Class location:	online
Section(s):	BA1	Class times:	Mon / Wed 6:00-8:00PM
Course duration:	Nov. 2 to Dec. 12, 2020	Pre-requisites:	N/A
Division:	Operations and Logistics	Co-requisites:	N/A
Program:	MBAN		

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Martha Essak, M.Sc.		
Phone:	778-819-8368	Office location:	online
Email:	martha.essak@sauder.ubc.ca	Office hours:	Mon / Wed 8:00-9:00PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

BABS 507 provides students with a theoretical understanding of the basis of regression techniques, as well as practice with the application of linear models. These techniques are widely used in a variety of fields including business, economics, finance and operations research. The skills taught in this course are essential for any business analyst.

In this course, students will learn regression (simple linear regression and multiple linear regression) using continuous variables. In general, these models relate response variables to potential predictor / explanatory variables, and can be used to estimate parameters, make predictions, or statistically control for certain variables. Students will become familiar with when and how to construct different models, how to assess the assumptions and goodness of fit, how to interpret results, and how to present these results in text and graphical form. Students will use the program R for statistical computing for the statistical analysis of real data.

COURSE FORMAT

Class time will consist of lectures, discussions and activities. Some material will be provided as videos that can be watched prior to class time. Students will complete quizzes, readings, homework assignments, and the project outside of class time.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Visualize data and calculate summary statistics
2. Develop linear models that are appropriate to the type of data, and fit them using statistical software
3. Assess if the assumptions of the analysis are met using statistical tests and visualization methods
4. Interpret the parameters of these models
5. Conduct statistical inference on these parameters using point estimation and confidence interval estimation
6. Perform predictions based on models
7. Assess goodness of fit and compare different models using model diagnostics
8. Use variable selection to assess which variables should be included
9. Present the results of analyses in the form of statistical reports
10. Use the statistical software package R to perform analyses

ASSESSMENTS

Summary

<u>Component</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Assignments	40%
Project	40%
Quizzes	5%
Professionalism / participation	<u>15%</u>
Total	<u>100%</u>

Details of Assessments

Homework Assignments

Students will **individually** to solve the problems in the homework assignments. Late submissions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Homework assignments should be handed in electronically via the UBC Canvas system. Assignments will be graded on correctness and clarity.

Project

Students will work **in pairs** on a project (in report form) that uses the techniques learned throughout the course. **You may not work with other classmates outside your partnership or obtain outside help.** Please consult with the instructor if you need help or clarification.

Quizzes

Students will work **individually** on the quizzes, which are designed to be completed after you have finished the readings about that material.

Professionalism / Participation

Professionalism will be assessed based on punctuality, preparation for class, participation in class activities, contribution to class discussions, and interaction with peers and the instructor.

LEARNING MATERIALS

Required books:

Regression Analysis: A Practical Introduction

By Jeremy Arkes (2019)

Understanding Regression Analysis: An Introductory Guide

By Larry D. Schroeder, David L. Sjoquist & Paula E. Stephan (2018)

Estimated cost of required materials: FREE! Available at library.ubc.ca

Technology Requirements

We will be using [Canvas](#) for this course. The course page will be accessible starting **Oct. 16, 2020**. Log in using your campus wide login (CWL). Note that the course material is found under “Modules”, which you can click on the left sidebar.

If you experience any technical difficulties with your login to Canvas, please contact the [UBC IT Service Centre](#).

Your laptop and home Internet service should meet the following minimum requirements:

- **Internet:** at least 2Mbps download and 2Mbps upload speed. (You can check your home Internet at: <http://www.speedtest.net>)
- **Laptop:**
 - Apple: MAC OSX 10.9 or above, PC: Windows 7 or later
 - Webcam and microphone (built-in or external)
 - At least 4GB of RAM
- **Software:**
 - Required: R <https://www.r-project.org>
 - Required: RStudio <https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/>
 - Required: Anaconda <https://www.anaconda.com/products/individual>
 - Recommended: Office 365 (Excel only), which you can download for free as a student: <https://it.ubc.ca/software-downloads>

COURSE-SPECIFIC POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Missed or late assignments, and regrading of assessments

Late submissions will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero.

Academic Concessions

If extenuating circumstances arise, please contact the RHL Graduate School program office as early as reasonably possible, and submit an [Academic Concession Request & Declaration Form](#) <https://webforms.sauder.ubc.ca/academic-concession-rhlee>. If an academic concession is granted during the course, the student will be provided options by RHL, or by the instructor in consultation with RHL, per [UBC's policy on Academic Concession](#).

Code Plagiarism

Code plagiarism falls under the UBC policy for [Academic Misconduct](#). Students must correctly cite any code that has been authored by someone else or by the student themselves for other assignments. Cases of "reuse" may include, but are not limited to: the reproduction (copying and pasting) of code with none or minimal reformatting (e.g., changing the name of the variables), the translation of an algorithm or a script from a language to another, or the generation of code by automatic code-generation software.

An "adequate acknowledgement" requires a detailed identification of the (parts of the) code reused and a full citation of the original source code that has been reused.

Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments.

POLICIES APPLICABLE TO COURSES IN THE ROBERT H. LEE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Attendance

Excepting extenuating circumstances, students are expected to attend 100% of their scheduled class hours. Absent students limit their own academic potential, and that of their classmates, and cause unnecessary disruption to the learning environment. Students missing more than 20% of the total scheduled class hours for a course (including classes held during the add/drop period) without having received an academic concession will be withdrawn from that course. Withdrawals, depending on timing, could result in a "W" or an "F" standing on the transcript.

Punctuality

Students are expected to arrive for classes and activities on time and fully prepared to engage. Late arrivals may be refused entry at the discretion of the instructor or activity lead. Students arriving later than halfway through a scheduled class will be treated as absent for that class.

Electronic Devices

During online lectures, students are not permitted to use any electronic devices other than the primary one used for attending the online lecture (e.g. laptop or desktop). Only Zoom should be open during the online lecture unless an instructor advises the use of another program/website for an in-class activity. Feedback from students indicates that personal devices are the number one distraction from effective learning and participation in the online learning environment.

Citation Style

Please use the American Psychological Association (APA) reference style to cite your sources.

Details of the above policies and other RHL Policies are available at:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=12,199,506,1625>

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available on the UBC Senate website at <https://senate.ubc.ca/policies-resources-support-student-success>.

Respect for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The UBC Sauder School of Business strives to promote an intellectual community that is enhanced by diversity along various dimensions including status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, social class, and/or disability. It is critical that students from diverse backgrounds and perspectives be valued in and well-served by their courses. Furthermore, the diversity that students bring to the classroom should be viewed as a resource, benefit, and source of strength for your learning experience. It is expected that all students and members of our community conduct themselves with empathy and respect for others.

Academic Integrity

The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences.

Academic Freedom and Students Studying from Outside Canada

During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0> for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: <http://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression>

COPYRIGHT

All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline and could be subject to legal action. Any lecture recordings are for the sole use of the instructor and students enrolled in the class. In no case may the lecture recording or part of the recording be used by students for any other purpose, either personal or commercial. Further, audio or video recording of classes are not permitted without the prior consent of the instructor. Students may not share class Zoom links or invite others who are not registered to view sessions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

ONLINE TEACHING TOOL & REQUIREMENTS

This course will be taught using Zoom for synchronous classes and office hours.

For this course, you are required to use a Zoom account during synchronous classes and office hours. If you do not have a Zoom account, you can create one here: <https://zoom.us/signup>. Note: creating a Zoom account requires that you provide a first name, last name, and email address to Zoom. For privacy purposes, you may consent to using your existing email address and your real name. Alternatively, if you prefer, you may sign up using an alternative email address and an anonymized name that does not identify you (i.e. Jane Doe, jane.doe@email.com). If you have trouble creating an account, or accessing a Zoom session, please contact CLCHelp@sauder.ubc.ca. You will be required to provide the email address associated with your Zoom account in a Canvas quiz for identification purposes.

To help replicate the classroom experience, make sessions more dynamic and hold each person accountable, both students and instructors are required to have their cameras on during Zoom sessions. Students who require an accommodation with regard to the "camera on" requirement must contact their instructors in advance of the first class to discuss options. As professional graduate students, students are expected to conduct themselves professionally by joining sessions on time, muting mics when not speaking, refraining from using any other technology when in-session, attending in business casual dress (at a minimum), and participating from a quiet environment. Content from synchronous sessions will be selectively recorded per instructor discretion and made available to students on Canvas for a maximum duration of the course length. This is done to allow students the opportunity to return to lecture content to solidify learnings.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(Subject to change with class consultation)

All classes are **synchronous**. Some materials will be provided in advance to be completed as preparation.

Class	Date	Topic	Readings or Activities	Assessments due
1	Nov. 2	Simple Linear Regression (SLR)	Optional: Videos about hypothesis testing and confidence intervals for means (review of introductory statistics concepts) Arkes 2.1-2.8 Schroeder et al. Ch. 1	
2	Nov. 4	SLR: Hypothesis testing, CI's, sampling distributions	Arkes Ch. 5 Schroeder et al. Ch. 3	Quiz #1 due Nov. 4 at 6 PM
3	Nov. 9	SLR: Transformations		Assignment #1 due Wed. Nov. 11 at 11:59 PM
4	*Nov. 13	Multiple Linear Regression (MLR)	Arkes Ch. 2.9-2.11 Schroeder et al. Ch. 2	Quiz #2 due Nov. 13 at 6 PM
5	Nov. 16	MLR: Transformations and interactions	Arkes 4.1-4.2, 4.5-4.7 Schroeder et al. Ch. 4 Transformations	
6	Nov. 18	Scaling and Prediction	Readings on Canvas	Assignment #2 due Fri. Nov. 20 at 11:59 PM
7	Nov. 23	Diagnostics for unusual observations		Project Part A due Tues. Nov. 24 at 11:59 PM
8	Nov. 25	Multicollinearity and variable selection	Arkes Ch. 6 Schroeder et al. Ch. 5	
9	Nov. 30	Best practices in data visualization (ggplot2)	Readings on Canvas	Quiz #3 due Nov. 30 at 6 PM
10	Dec. 2	Best practices in data visualization (ggplot2)		Assignment #3 due Thursday Dec. 3 at 11:59 PM
				Project Part B due TBD

Note: * Due to Remembrance Day on Nov. 11, 2020, the university is closed. A make-up class will be held on Friday Nov. 13 6-8PM.