

**Syllabus for ECON 307 Section 07**  
**Principles/Methods of Statistics**  
**William & Mary**  
**Fall 2020**

Instructor: Nick Bergan  
Office: Online  
Class Meeting: Online  
Office Hours: TR 3:00 – 4:00pm; or by appointment  
Email: [njbergan@wm.edu](mailto:njbergan@wm.edu)

**Course Objectives**

In this class, we will learn how to use statistics to answer questions and make inferences about the real world. The statistical methods include data collection, display, interpretation, and analysis. This class will cover descriptive statistics, probability, statistical inference, and regression analysis.

**Course Material**

MyLab Statistics with Pearson eText -- Access Card -- for Essential Statistics (18-Weeks), 3rd Edition

Gould, Ryan & Wong

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ISBN: 9780136570554

**Grading:**

<u>Grading Scale:</u>	A = $\geq 93\%$	A- = 90% - < 93%
	B+ = 87% - < 90%	B = 83% - < 87%
	B- = 80% - < 83%	C+ = 77% - < 80%
	C = 73% - < 77%	C- = 70% - < 73%
	D+ = 67% - < 70%	D = 63% - < 67%
	D- = 60% - < 63%	F = < 60%

**Homework**

You will complete the assigned work in MyLab Statistics. You will complete the skills check quiz and review homework for each chapter. They will count equally toward the final grade of MyLab Statistics.

## **Discussions**

Discussion Board Grading:

First Post by Thursday of the first Module at 11:59pm, 20 points

Initial Post, 10 points for APA formatting, 20 points for content and development, 10 points for use of statistical terms, 40 points

Peer Responses, 20 points each, 40 points total

TOTAL=100 points

### **IMPORTANT NOTES ON HOW TO DO WELL ON THE DISCUSSIONS**

1. Do you have 3-4 paragraphs for initial post?
2. Did you use economic terms from the Week?
3. Did you have at least 2 peer responses of at least one paragraph in length?
4. Did you label your post correctly?
5. Did you get your first post in by Thursday?
6. Did you add value in the discussion board with appropriate use of statistical terms?

**YOUR FIRST POST MUST BE BY THE FIRST THURSDAY at 11:59pm OF EACH MODULE OR YOU WILL LOSE 20 POINTS!!!!**

To do well, I will recommend that you write 3-4 paragraphs for your response to the discussion question and 1-2 paragraph response to your fellow classmates or my additional questions that I post. I also recommend that you are using statistical terms in your evaluation and responses as this are a good way to achieve maximum points. Each post should be "value added." In other words, your posts should further the thread topics; show that you have learned something from our readings, or outside research; bring anecdotal, life experiences to the threaded issues; ask relevant and forward moving questions; or otherwise promote the course objectives for the week. Posts like "I agree," or "Great post" are nice, good-will posts--but do not count as a graded post.

**INITIAL POST (60 total points):** For each initial post, you need to evaluate/analyze the discussion question using appropriate statistical terminology in your work in at least 3-4 paragraphs. It is important to make sure you are using proper sources and use of the economic terminology as this is what you are being graded on. When evaluating the discussion question, make sure that you are not summarizing the discussion question, but extending the analysis of the discussion question through the use of the terminology found in the text. You need to label your initial post as the following in the discussion thread with the following subject. LAST NAME. INITIAL POST. For example, BERGAN. INITIAL POST #1

**PEER RESPONSES (20 total points each, 40 total points):** You will be responding to 2 students or to any of my questions that I post. For each peer response, you need to respond with at least a one paragraph (at least 4 sentences) response doing the same routine as you did for the initial post. It is important to make sure that with your development with your peer response that you are extending your analysis.

Each post should be "value added." In other words, your posts should further the thread topics; show that you have learned something from our readings, or outside research; bring anecdotal, life experiences to the threaded issues; ask relevant and forward moving questions; or otherwise promote the course objectives for the week. Posts like "I agree," or "Great post" are nice, good-will posts--but do not count as a graded post.

Discussion Evaluation: You will write an initial post (3-4 paragraph response) to the discussion forum and you will reply to two posts during the week. Those may be in reply to comments on your initial post or to other students. A response needs to have more depth than "I agree" or "you are wrong." A peer response can be classified to any of the questions I post within the week, as well. Your grade will be determined by your overall involvement in the forum and will be made up of three elements.

### **Exams and Grading Policy**

The final exam will consist of 50 questions. You will get two attempts and the highest of the two attempts will be recorded.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Discussions	20%
MyLab Statistics Work(skills review homeworks and skills check quizzes	60%
Final	20%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100%</b>

### **Honor Code**

You are expected to follow the William & Mary Honor Code. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. Please refer to the Student Handbook and the [William & Mary Honor Council website](#) for information regarding the Honor System.

### **Procedures for Accommodating Disabilities**

William & Mary accommodates students with disabilities in accordance with federal laws and university policy. Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a learning, psychiatric, physical, or chronic health diagnosis should contact Student Accessibility Services staff at 757-221-2512 or at [sas@wm.edu](mailto:sas@wm.edu) to determine if accommodations are warranted and to obtain an official letter of accommodation. For more information, please visit [www.wm.edu/sas](http://www.wm.edu/sas).

## Course Schedule†

Module	Work Due by 11pm on the date listed below
1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 1</li><li>2. Introductions – not graded, but required for attendance – due by 8/22</li><li>3. Discussion Board #1 – initial post due by 8/27, peer responses due by 8/29</li><li>4. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 9/5</li></ol>
2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 2</li><li>2. Discussion Board #2 – initial post due by 9/10, peer responses due by 9/12</li><li>3. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 9/12</li></ol>
3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 3</li><li>2. Discussion Board #3 – initial post due by 9/17, peer responses due by 9/19</li><li>3. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 9/26</li></ol>
4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 4</li><li>2. Discussion Board #4 – initial post due by 10/1, peer responses due by 10/3</li><li>3. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 10/10</li></ol>
5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 5</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 10/17</li></ol>
6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 6</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 10/24</li></ol>
7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 7</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 10/31</li></ol>
8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 8</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 11/7</li></ol>
9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 9</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 11/14</li></ol>
10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Read Chps 10</li><li>2. Myeconlab Work(Skills Review Homework and Skills Check Quiz) – due by 11/21</li></ol>
11	Final Exam – due by 11/24

†Although I'll try to follow the course schedule closely, deviations are possible and I'll adjust speed and coverage of materials as we proceed. The main purpose of the course schedule is to provide a guide as to what we will cover.