Instructor: Dr. Susan Cochran  
Professor, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health  
Office: 71-245 Center for Health Sciences, School of Public Health  
Stat Office: 2943 Math Sciences (For Monday and Wednesday morning office hours only)  
Phone: (310) 206-9310  
Email: cochran@ucla.edu  
Office hours: M 11-12 & W 11-12 (Stat Office), W 2-3 (Public Health office)

TAs:  
Ms. Annie Che  
Office: 3903 Math Sciences  
Email: chea@stat.ucla.edu  
Office hours:  
Ms. Yijing Shen  
Office: 3969 Math Sciences  
Email: yshen@stat.ucla.edu

Meeting times and places:  
Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10:00-10:50am, Boelter 3400

Discussion Sections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>TA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Tu 9-10</td>
<td>MS 5128</td>
<td>Yijing Shen</td>
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<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Tu 10-11</td>
<td>MS 5128</td>
<td>Yijing Shen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Tu 11-12</td>
<td>MS 5128</td>
<td>Annie Che</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Tu 12-1</td>
<td>MS 5128</td>
<td>Annie Che</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Overview: This course is an introduction to the study of uncertainty and scientific decision-making. Contrary to popular belief, statistics is not all math. Here, you will be introduced to methods of making informed decisions about what we observe in the world around us. The course emphasizes conceptual understanding of the material; hand calculations require no more preparation than elementary algebra. You need a hand-calculator that can store $\sum X^2$ in memory. A good choice is one that has memory functions to store separately the sums of two variables (x and y) and produce $r$ (the correlation). During exams you may not use a "hand held" electronic device, like a PDA (e.g., Palm, Clie), cellphone, laptop, or any hand calculator that has the capacity to store class notes or to communicate with others (for obvious reasons). So it is best to obtain an inexpensive hand calculator that you are comfortable using to have ready for exams.

Text: Required: Freedman, D., Pisani, R., & Purves, R., Statistics, 3rd edition. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1998. There is also a supplemental “Reader” for the course in the Student Store that includes copies of my overheads used in lecture, practice questions for exams, and other handouts.

The web: Some course materials and lecture outlines are on the web. There are 2 ways to reach the course. One is through your automatic my.ucla web page. The second way is to go directly to the real site. Sometimes this works better. The address is:  
http://web.stat.ucla.edu/~cochran/stat10/winter  
Please download my lecture outlines to make your notetaking easier, but with the caveat that the notes reflect only what I intend to say, and as has been said before, "the best laid plans often go astray."

Sections: In sections, the TA will review the homework problem sets with you as well as give you practice with other concepts covered in the course. This is also an opportunity to review material presented in class and to have a more personal experience with your classmates. Students who attend discussion sections regularly usually obtain better grades in this course than those who do not.

Exams: There will be two midterms (Friday, January 30 and Friday, February 20) and a final (Monday, March 22, 8-11 am). Mark your calendars now; there will be no early or late exams given for any reason. The midterms are not cumulative. One half of the final exam will cover the material presented after the second midterm and is essentially a 3rd "midterm"; 1/2 of the final will be cumulative covering the whole course. You may use a hand-held calculator during the exams. Exams will be based on lectures and
the textbook. Given the size of the class this quarter, exams will be multiple choice. Doing the homework and the exercises in the book (including those not assigned as homework) are the best means of preparation for the exams. Always bring your student photo ID to exams because identification will be checked on a random basis.

**Homework:** There are 9 problem sets assigned—but #3 and #7 are not turned in for credit so that I can post the answers to aid your studying for the midterms. Assignments and the date the 7 other assignments are due are listed below. The problem numbers refer to the REVIEW EXERCISES at the end of the chapter unless SR (Special Review Section) is specified. Assignments are turned in at the end of class lecture on the day due. Each homework assignment is graded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Not done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Less than 1/2 done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/2 or more done but not completely done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>All problems done</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The homework is meant to give you practice at mastering concepts—for this reason you will not be penalized for occasionally getting the wrong answer. Because homework is being graded for how much of it you attempted and completed, the decision as to how "done" is done will be left to the reader. Answers that suggest you did not thoroughly attempt the homework, such as answering simply "yes" or "no" to complicated questions or answering most questions in a way that indicates you did not study the chapter, will not be considered "done." You are free to work with friends in doing the homework, but homework that is copied from a friend or some other source is cheating. You must show all your work.

**Grading:** Your grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Product</th>
<th>What is used</th>
<th>Maximum points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>Your 6 highest scores of 7 assignments</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>Each of these are 100 pts possible. From your 3 exams, I will drop the midterm exam or the &quot;midterm&quot; portion of the final that is your worst performance, keeping only your two best exams.*</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final—&quot;Midterm&quot; portion only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final—Cumulative portion</td>
<td>The cumulative portion of the final</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*You must take all exams (see missed exams below).

There are no interim letter grades given for each midterm. Your course grade is determined by the total points you accumulate. Despite the teaching staff's best efforts to keep exam difficulty constant, there often are variations. In order to adjust for this and to keep grading fair I will do the following:

- **To adjust for differences in exam difficulty in deciding which to drop**: I may standardize the midterm points to maintain equivalence in the value of points you obtain before selecting which midterm to drop. For fairness, your final will be adjusted as well. I will tell the class if I do this.
- **To adjust for the general level of exam difficulty for this class**: I will set the maximum points possible for the class (the value defined as 100% in order to assign grades) equal to the second highest total score accumulated by a student in this class. Final grades will then be: 92-100% of maximum points, A; 89-91%, A-; 87-88%, B+; 81-86%, B; 79-80%, B-; 75-78%, C+; 55-74%, C; 45-54%, C-; 35-44%, D; 34% and below, F.
- **To avoid penalizing students for taking this Stat 10 section vs. another**: I will compare the class final grade distribution from the grading scheme I just described above to the average grades given in all sections of Stat 10 over the past 3 quarters (over all professors). If this class' grade distribution by the first grading strategy is better, I will leave things as is. If worse, I will relax the cutpoints described above to achieve consistency with the Stat 10 average distribution across all sections.

**Housekeeping:**

**Homework:** Because answers to homework questions from the textbook are posted on the web right after they are due, no late homework will be accepted. If you are going to miss class when homework is due, you can always turn it in early to my mail box in the Statistics Department office, 8th floor, MS 8130. FAXing or E-mailing the homework to myself or the TA is not allowed; The TA has been instructed not to accept homework from you. Please remember the reader grades approximately 170 homework assignments each week as quickly as possible so that we can return it to you without delay. To make this task go smoothly, you are responsible for
following the guidelines below. The reader is allowed to mark your work as not done if your answers are difficult to find or evaluate. Be sure you get the credit you deserve.

1. Your pages must be stapled. Don't trust someone else to keep your pages together. Forget paper clips, tape, folds, gum, rubberbands. These do not work.

2. In the upper right corner of every page put:
   a. Your full name
   b. Your student ID number
   c. Your section number
   d. Your TA's name

3. On the first page in the upper left corner, put the number of the homework assignment and the date you turned it in.

4. Clearly number problems using Chapter/Problem numbers in the book.

5. Do the problems in the order assigned. The reader will not go looking for them.

6. Write clearly. You want the reader to know that you completed the work. If your writing is illegible, that may be hard to determine. Print if you have to.

7. Remember, the reader is only trying to be sure that you did the work. If the reader cannot make sense of your homework then it might not be considered done.

Missed exams: By definition, emergencies beyond a student's control are rare events. There will be no make-up midterm exams given. If you do not take both midterms, then I will average the F from the missed midterm with the other two "midterms." However, if for unavoidable and exceptional reasons you are unable to take a midterm, you are still eligible to drop your F midterm score as your lowest midterm if 1> you seek my permission to miss the exam--please do this as early as possible, and before the midterm you expect to miss, because such requests are granted only in exceptional circumstances, 2> the reason for missing the exam is well documented (you must provide any written documentation requested) and, 3> I agree that the reason is beyond your control and makes you unable to take the exam when it is scheduled. A make-up final examination is given only when circumstances beyond a student's control make it impossible to take the final. Students will be required to provide written documentation of the reason why the final exam was not taken. Make-up final exams are written individually for the student and have a different format than the regular exam. Final determination of whether or not to drop a missed midterm or to give a make-up final exam rests solely with the instructor.

Grade appeals: If you believe that a mistake has been made in grading your exam, please write a note describing the error, attach it to your answer sheet, and give it to the instructor or your TA. You have 5 working days to do this starting from the day that midterms are returned to your discussion section. If you do not attend section, you will have to obtain your midterm from your TA during the TA's office hours. If you are ill or have some other circumstance that will prevent you from complying with this 5 day requirement, you need to discuss this with your TA before or during this five day period in order to make alternative arrangements. Appeals after 5 working days will not be considered. To ensure fairness, we copy graded answer sheets before returning them and will compare the two when considering your appeal.

If you have a concern about the homework grading, you must bring this to the attention of your TA the day your homework is returned in section. The TA will take your homework back and discuss your concern with the instructor. Because homework grading is very straightforward, most difficulties arise from failure to follow the guidelines above. If so, the appeal will be denied. But sometimes, we make mistakes and the appeal will be accepted. If you do not attend the discussion section when homework is returned, you will not be able to appeal because answers are already posted on the class web site. For that reason, we are unable to consider late appeals and the grade will stand--but remember, you do get to drop your lowest score.

Incompletes: In the event you miss the final exam, you must meet the following criteria before I can give you an Incomplete: (1) your work must be of passing quality throughout the course, e.g., your homework and midterms are passing work, (2) missing the exam was due to an emergency beyond your control that you have documented to my satisfaction, and (3) you contacted me on or before the day of the final to arrange a conference.