

Bus 701: Advanced Statistics

Fall 2014

Syllabus

The aim of this course is to illustrate statistical thinking in the context of social sciences. Contents:

1. A review of statistics and its foundations
 - Part I: Introduction to statistics; basic concepts; descriptive statistics
 - Part II: Probability and stochastic models
 - Part III: Statistical inference
 - Part IV: Further topics
2. contribution to a current research project
3. critical presentation of a topic about statistics and its applications

Grading:

Presence and presentation:	50%
Research project:	50%

Reading list:

- HACKING, I.: *An Introduction to Probability and Inductive Logic*. Cambridge University Press, 2001.
- KAHNEMAN, D.: *Thinking, Fast and Slow*. Penguin, 2012.
- NEWBOLD, P., CARLSON, W.L., & THORNE, B.: *Statistics for Business and Economics*, sixth edition. Prentice Hall, 2006.
- OKASHA, S.: *Philosophy of Science: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, 2002.
- PENTLAND, A.: *Social Physics: How Good Ideas Spread — The Lessons from a New Science*. Penguin, 2014.
- PORTER, T.M.: *The Rise of Statistical Thinking 1820–1900*. Princeton University Press, 1986.
- SALSBURG, D.: *The Lady Tasting Tea*. Henry Holt, 2002.
- SCOTT, JOHN: *Social Network Analysis. A Handbook*, second edition. Sage Publications, 2006.
- TALEB, N.: *The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable*, second edition. Random House, 2010.
- TALEB, N.: *Foiled by Randomness: The Hidden Role of Chance in Life and in the Markets*. Penguin, 2007.
- VENABLES, W.N. & RIPLEY, B.D.: *Modern Applied Statistics with S*, fourth edition. Springer, 2002.

Further references will be given in the lectures.