

**STA199 Statistical Evidence: Truth or Myth? (LEC0101)  
Winter 2024**

**Instructor:** Jessie Yeung

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**Lecture Schedule:** Friday 11:00AM-1:00PM

**Lecture Location:** See Acorn

**Instructor Office Hours:** By appointment

**Course Description**

This course explores the impact statistics has made and continues to make on everyday life through science, law, and the modern methods for information processing. Statistical principles will be illustrated using examples from real life including business, romance and health. Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

**Course Format**

This class will meet every Friday 11:00AM-1:00PM. The class will be a combination of short lectures, small-group activities, and class discussions.

Most classes will include an in-class activity that you will complete in small groups during class time. These class activities are to be uploaded onto Quercus before the end of class. In-class activities will not be graded but will contribute to participation grading.

**Course Assessments**

Assessment	Weight	Due Date
Participation (Attendance, punctuality, preparation, attention, activity participation)	40%	Throughout the Course
Writing Assignment	30%	February 16, 11:59PM
Final Presentation	30%	During class on March 15 and March 22

**Textbooks & Resources**

Some of the course topics follow the content presented in *Seeing Through Statistics* (4<sup>th</sup> edition) by Jessica Utts, ISBN: 9781285050881. You are not required to buy the textbook. Two copies are available at the Mathematical Sciences Library.

In addition, we will be using various other sources that will be made available as the course progresses.

**Missed Work**

Assessments that are not submitted by the deadline will receive a grade of 0. If there are circumstances that prevent you from meeting a deadline, requests for an extension may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. When possible, request for extensions should be made prior to the deadline. The instructor may request the student to [declare an absence on Acorn](#). If an extension for an in-class presentation is provided, it will be rescheduled for another class or rescheduled at an alternate time to be presented online.

**Email Etiquette**

When communicating with anyone in any way – but especially via email – make sure you courteous and respectful. This means using full sentences, not slang like “yo prof, I wanna get the lecture notes” (a real email received by a fellow instructor), etc. This is good practice for your eventual transition into industry or grad school. Make us want to reply to you. Importantly, *we reserve the right to simply ignore any emails that don't follow these guidelines*. If you email me or anyone, here are some general guidelines.

- Use a subject line that includes “STA199” along with a few words describing the topic of your email
- Start the email with “Hi Jessie, ...” – or with “Jessie” replaced by whomever you’re emailing
- End the email with a “Thank you”, “Regards”, or something that indicates that the email is over
- Include your full name and UofT Student Number in the email

### **Course Materials**

All course materials are copyrighted. If they are from the textbook, the copyright belongs to the textbook publisher. If they are provided by an instructor (for example, lecture notes, assignments, solutions) the copyright belongs to the instructor. Distributing materials online or sharing them with anyone in any way is a copyright violation and, in some situations, an academic offence.

### **Accessibility Needs**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom, or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca>.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the University of Toronto degree that you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement, and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves. Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto’s Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters available at <http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca>.

Discussion about lecture materials, textbook concepts and course concepts with your classmates and the teaching team is encouraged, but **it is expected that you work independently on all graded assignments**. Please note, you may not submit for credit any work that was completed by someone else. This includes, but is not limited to, taking partially or fully completed written answers, searching answers to problems, communication of solutions, and plagiarism. You may discuss lecture materials and general course concepts, but it is expected that you work individually and independently through all assignments. To protect yourself from potential academic integrity offences, do not share your assignments anywhere (including on social media sites).

Academic offenses will be taken very seriously and dealt with accordingly. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact your instructor via email or by visiting office hours.

### **Policy on Generative AI**

Students may not use artificial intelligence tools for any course assessments. However, these tools may be useful when gathering information from across sources and assimilating it for understanding.