

**STA199 Statistical Evidence: Truth or Myth? (LEC0101)**  
**Fall 2021**

**Instructor:** Jessie Yeung

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**Synchronous Lecture Schedule:** Wednesday 10:00AM-12:00PM (Toronto local time)

**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 Wednesday 10:00AM-12:00PM (Toronto local time) on Zoom. The class will be a combination of short lectures, small-group discussions, and class discussions.

**Course Assessments**

Assessment	Weight	Due Date
Participation	20%	Throughout the Course
Assignment 1	25%	Oct. 26, 2021 at 11:59PM
Assignment 2	25%	Dec. 15, 2021 at 11:59PM
Student-Led Discussion	30%	During class on Nov. 24, Dec. 1, or Dec. 8

**Textbooks & Resources**

We will be following the textbook *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.

**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>.

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.

**COVID-19 & Mental Health Resources**

This iteration for STA199 will be running during the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be completely online. There may be times where extensions for students are needed, and/or instructors and TAs may take longer than usual to respond to emails and/or marking needs. It is recommended to please stay active in the course as much as possible. If you are experiencing exceptional circumstances that will affect your performance in the course in the long term, it is your responsibility to contact your college registrar and the STA199 teaching team as early as possible.

The Faculty of Arts and Science have put together the following list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding COVID-19: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/covid19-artsci-student-faqs>.

Additionally, learning online can be more challenging than learning in-person. If you need help regarding mental health, please do not hesitate to find support. Here are some UofT mental health resources:

- <https://prod.virtualagent.utoronto.ca/>.
- <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/departments/health-wellness/>.