STA220H1 The Practice of Statistics I (In-Person Sections LEC0101, LEC0201)
Fall 2025

Teaching Team

Name	Role	Lecture Schedule*	Email
Ismaila Ba	LEC0101 Instructor	Mon. 9-11am, Wed. 9-10am	sta220@course.utoronto.ca
Jessie Yeung	Course Coordinator & LEC0201 Instructor	Mon. 1-3pm, Wed. 1-2pm	

* Room information available on ACORN.

Instructor and TA office hours will be posted on Quercus

Course Description
An introductory course in statistical concepts and methods, emphasizing exploratory data analysis for univariate and bivariate data, sampling and experimental designs, basic probability models, estimation and tests of hypothesis in one-sample and comparative two-sample studies. A statistical computing package is used but no prior computing experience is assumed. Note: STA220H1 does not count as a distribution requirement course.

Prerequisite
None

Recommended Preparation
Grade 12 Mathematics and one University course in BR= 3/ 4/ 5

Exclusion
ECO220Y1/ ECO227Y1/ GGR270H1/ IRW220H1/ PSY201H1/ SOC202H1/ STA261H1/ STA238H1/ STA248H1/ STA288H1/ EEB225H1/ STAB22H3/ STAB57H3/ STA215H5/ STA220H5/ ECO220Y5/ ECO227Y5/ STA258H5/ STA260H5

Quercus Homepage
Our course homepage is located on Quercus (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/404280). This is where you will find the most up-to-date information about the course such as announcements, lecture material, assessment information, grades, etc.

Note that this Quercus page is shared between the in-person sections LEC0101 and LEC0201. The online section (i.e., LEC5101) has a separate Quercus site and syllabus.

Email Communication
For all course-related inquiries, please email sta220@course.utoronto.ca. The course coordinator manages this inbox and will respond to most emails, regardless of the section you are enrolled in. If your question pertains to a specific section, it will be directed to the appropriate instructor.

Students should expect a reply within 24-48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays).

Piazza
We will be using Piazza as the platform for discussions related to the course material and assessments. You access Piazza from the Quercus homepage by selecting 'Piazza' from the menu. Alternatively, you can find our course page at https://piazza.com/utoronto.ca/fall2025/sta220

All posts and conduct on Piazza must remain professional. Posts regarding personal matters such as inquiries about grades, reporting absences, regrade requests, etc. should be communicated directly to the teaching team via email (at

sta220@course.utoronto.ca) and **NOT** be posted on Piazza. Piazza is intended for students to receive support regarding course information and content and thus should be an overall positive and professional environment. Postings that do not align with this environment will be removed. Questions regarding assessment questions solutions before they have been graded and returned are not permitted.

Textbooks & Resources
There is no required course textbook.

The following is a list of recommended supplementary material:

1. Online Modules: https://courses.utstat.utoronto.ca/STA220/
   - This website features video lectures created for past iterations of STA220.

2. OpenIntro Statistics 4th Ed. By Diez, D., Cetinkaya-Rundel M. & Barr, C.D. (2019)
   - Free and available to download here: https://leanpub.com/os
   - This is an excellent textbook that is less conversational but contains clearly explained concepts. A nice feature of the text and website is that many of the examples and vignettes used to illustrate the concepts are based on real applications of statistics.

Course Schedule

Week (Starting Date)	**Topic**	**Notes**
Week 1 (Sept. 2)	Course Introduction	No quiz
Week 2 (Sept. 8)	Summarizing Data	Quiz Due Sun. Sept. 14 at 11:59pm
Week 3 (Sept. 15)	Probability: Events	Quiz Due Sun. Sept. 21 at 11:59pm
Week 4 (Sept. 22)	Probability: Random Variables	Quiz Due Sun. Sept. 28 at 11:59pm
Week 5 (Sept. 29)	Sampling Distributions	Quiz Due Sun. Oct. 5 at 11:59pm
Week 6 (Oct. 6)	Confidence Intervals for Proportions	Quiz Due Sun. Oct. 12 at 11:59pm
Week 7 (Oct. 13)	Confidence Intervals for Means	No classes on Mon. Oct. 13 due to Thanksgiving. No quiz this week.
Week 8 (Oct. 20)	Term Test, Confidence Intervals for Means (Continued)	*LEC0101 Test*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 9:15am (Location TBA) *LEC0201 Test*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 1:15pm (Location TBA) Quiz Due Sun. Nov. 2 at 11:59pm
Reading Week		
Week 9 (Nov. 3)	The Process of Statistical Tests	Quiz Due Sun. Nov. 9 at 11:59pm

Week 10 (Nov. 10)	The Effective Use of Statistical Tests	Quiz Due Sun. Nov. 16 at 11:59pm
Week 11 (Nov. 17)	Comparing Two Groups	Quiz Due Sun. Nov. 23 at 11:59pm
Week 12 (Nov. 24)	Simple Linear Regression	Quiz Due Sun. Nov. 30 at 11:59pm Wed. Nov. 26 is the last lecture.

Course Assessments

Assessment	**Weight**	**Due Date**
Weekly Quizzes (Online through Quercus)	5% (Best 5 out of 10)	Weekly quizzes will be due most weeks, on Sundays at 11:59PM. See 'Course Schedule' for more details.
Assignment 1	12.5%	Fri. Oct. 10 at 11:59PM
Term Test (In-person, on campus)	25%	*LEC0101 Test*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 9:15am, on-campus location TBA *LEC0201 Test*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 1:15pm, on-campus location TBA
Assignment 2	12.5%	Fri. Nov. 28 at 11:59PM
Final Exam	45%	To be scheduled by the Faculty

Weekly Quizzes
There will be weekly quizzes available through Quercus. Each quiz will be open for a 72h period and each quiz will be due on Sundays at 11:59PM. The first quiz will end on September 14th and the last quiz will end on November 30th. There will be no quiz due on Oct. 19th for a total of 10 quizzes.

Each quiz may consist of multiple choice, T/F, or calculation questions. Within the 72h window for each quiz, you will have 1 hour to complete it.

You will have one attempt for each quiz. The best 5 out of 10 quiz scores will count towards your grade.

The use of course materials and R is permitted during weekly quizzes. Online resources or collaboration with others are not permitted.

Term Test
There will be one term test during the course which will take place during class time, with a time limit of 90 minutes.

The schedule for the term test is as follows:
- *LEC0101*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 9:15am (Campus Location TBA)

- *LEC0201*: Mon. Oct. 20 at 1:15pm (Campus Location TBA)

The term test is an in-person timed assessment. By enrolling in this offering of STA220, you are affirming that you are available on campus during the test time slot for your section. Students who miss the test will not be allowed to write the test for another section.

The following aids are permitted during the term test:

1. **Study notes** (ONE single-sided 8.5x11 inch sheet of notes)
    - Notes must be on a piece of paper (i.e. not on an electronic device) to be used during the term test.
    - Notes can be hand-written or typed/printed.
2. **Calculator** (see below for calculator policy)

Assignments

There will be two assignments throughout the term. You should expect the assignment to involve calculations, problem solving questions, coding in R and/or written communication. Assignment 1 is due on Fri. Oct. 10 at 11:59pm and Assignment 2 is due on Fri. Nov. 28 at 11:59pm. Both assignments are to be submitted through Crowdmark.

Final Exam

There will be a 3-hour cumulative final exam at the end of the course. The date and time of the final exam will be set by the Faculty later on in the term.

The final exam is closed-book and the only aid allowed is a calculator and ONE double-sided 8.5x11 inch sheet of notes. All notes brought into the exam will be collected and not returned to students.

Missed Assessments

See below for a more detailed explanation for the policy regarding missed assessments and extensions for each assessment.

- *Missed Quizzes*: Quizzes that are not submitted during the availability window will receive a grade of 0. No extensions will be granted for quizzes under any circumstances. However, the lowest 5 quiz grades will be dropped.

- *Missed Term Tests*: If the test is missed due to an illness or personal emergency please fill out the following form within one week of the missed test: Missed Term Test Form

  The form will ask you to upload the appropriate documentation, which is one of the following: ACORN absence declaration covering the date of your test, Verification of Illness form covering the date of your test, Letter from College Registrar, Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services.

  Students who submit the appropriate documentation through the form by the deadline will receive an email to confirm that the weight of the missed test will be transferred to their final exam.

- *Missed Assignments*: If the assignment is not submitted by the due date, it will be subject to a late penalty of 20% per day. **No extensions will be provided for the assignment.**

  Alternatively, if the assignment is missed due to an illness or personal emergency please fill out the following form within one week after the assignment deadline: Missed Assignment Form

  The form will ask you to upload the appropriate documentation, which is one of the following: ACORN absence declaration covering the assignment deadline, Verification of Illness form covering the date of the assignment deadline, Letter from College Registrar, Letter of Academic Accommodation from Accessibility Services.

Students who submit the appropriate documentation through the form by the deadline will receive an email to confirm that the weight of the missed assignment will be transferred to their final exam.

- *Missed Final Exam*: If you are not able to write your final exam at the scheduled time or if you miss a final exam for reasons outside your control, you may submit a deferred exam petition, which is a request to write your exam at a later time. Please see the Faculty of Arts and Science Deferred Exam policy for more information.

Remark Requests
Mistakes occasionally happen when marking. If you feel there is an issue with the marking of the term test or assignment, you may request that it be re-marked. The course re-mark policy exists to correct mistakes, and any request should clearly identify the error (for example, a question that was not marked, or a total incorrectly calculated). Requests must be submitted using this form: Regrade Request Form.

Requests must be submitted within 1 week of the date that the assessment was returned to you.

Please note that your *entire test/assignment may be re-marked when submitting a remarking request*. It is possible that a remark request will result in a lower mark. Note that for the final exam, the process is handled by the Faculty of Arts & Science (see https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/final-exams/exam-reread-course-mark-recheck).

Calculator Policy
Calculators with internet capability are prohibited during assessments.

Computing
An introduction to programming the R statistical software is a learning objective of this course. There are 2 main options for accessing R.

1. You need to first install R, and then R Studio, both of which are freely available. R can be downloaded for free from http://cran.r-project.org. R Studio can be downloaded for free from https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/.

2. Alternatively, you can also use R Studio through the U of T Jupyterhub available here: https://jupyter.utoronto.ca. After logging in, select New > R Studio.

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, computer code, assignments, tests, 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 or https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/task/register-with-accessibility-services/.

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 assessments**.

- Please note, you may not submit for credit any work that was completed by someone else. This includes, but is not limited to, partially or fully completed code, written answers, answers to problems, communication of solutions, and plagiarism. In particular, you are expected to complete and submit independent work for all quizzes, assignments, tests, and exams. You may discuss lecture materials and general course concepts, but it is expected that you work individually and independently through all STA220 assessments.
- You may use code provided by your STA220 instructors or TAs without providing a citation. If you use code from any other source, you must provide the source. To protect yourself from potential academic integrity offences, do not share your code and written submissions anywhere (including on social media sites). Discussion or sharing of test questions and/or solutions with others during (or after) the tests is not permitted.

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 the course coordinator and/or instructor.

Policy on Generative AI
While generative artificial intelligence tools can be used as a source for learning, the use of generative artificial intelligence tools and apps on graded course assessments is strictly prohibited (including quizzes, assignments, and term tests) unless explicitly stated otherwise by the instructor in this course. This includes ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants. Use of generative AI in this course may be considered use of an unauthorized aid, which is a form of cheating.