

COURSE OUTLINE

WINTER 2013

1. ACSC 535, Mathematics of Demography

<u>Lec</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>
L01	MWF	11:00	D. Scollnik	MS 324	scollnik@ucalgary.ca	TBA (see office door)

2. Prerequisites: [Actuarial Science 327](#) and Mathematics 323 or [Statistics 323](#).

(see Section 3.5C of Faculty of Science www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sc-3-5.html and Course Descriptions: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/course-desc-main.html)

3. Grading: The University policy on grading and related matters is described in sections F.1 and F.2 of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course, the following weights will be used:

<i>Tests</i>	[2]	50 % (Dates TBA in class)
<i>Final Exam</i>		50 % (To be scheduled by the Registrar)
<i>Optional Term Project</i>		Discretionary bonus, see below

The various components above will be assigned a percentage score and will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage in the course. The conversion table between course percentage and letter grade will be provided at least one week before the withdrawal deadline.

A passing grade in the Final Examination is essential for an overall grade of C- or better.

4. Missed Components of Term Work. The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in section 3.6: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sc-3-6.html. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with these regulations. See also www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-3.html.

5. There are no class exercises held outside of class hours

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OUT-OF-CLASS-TIME ACTIVITY. If you have a conflict with any out of class time activity, please inform your instructor at least one week in advance of the activity so that other arrangements may be made for you.

6. Textbook: Mathematics of Demography, 3rd edition, by Robert Brown

7. Examination Policy: Closed book tests and exams, calculators are allowed. Students should also read the Calendar, Section G, on Examinations: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g.html

8. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:

- (a) **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT** (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under K. Student Misconduct (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>) to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties.
- (b) **ASSEMBLY POINTS** in case of emergency during class time. Be sure to **FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF** with the information at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- (c) **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION POLICY.** Students with documentable disabilities are referred to the following links: Calendar entry on students with disabilities: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-1.html>
Disability Resource Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/>

- (d) **SAFEWALK:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call **220-5333** for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- (e) **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.** For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.
- (f) **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION:** VP Academic **Phone:** 220-3911 **Email:** suvpaca@ucalgary.ca.
SU Faculty Rep. **Phone:** 220-3913 **Email:** sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca **Website** <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca>
Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- (g) **INTERNET and ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE Information.** You can assume that in all classes that you attend, **your cell phone should be turned off.** Also, communication with other individuals, via laptop computers, Blackberries or other devices connectable to the Internet is not allowed in class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.

Additional Course Information.

Computing:

There is no significant computing component attached to this course. However, statistical software like Splus or R, mathematical software like Maple, and / or spreadsheet software like Excel, may be used to solve particular problems in the text or from class. This will be further discussed in class.

Evaluation:

There will be up to 2 tests written in the scheduled lecture / tutorial times.

Test 1: TBA

Test 2: TBA

Term Project:

Students may complete an individual, optional, term project. If you complete the project, it will be worth up to an extra 10% on your final course grade. NB, your final course grade will be no lower than it would have been had you elected not to complete the project. So it can only help your final course grade, and not hurt it.

The project is to construct a portfolio of newspaper and magazine articles relating to the subject of demography. Any articles relating to demography are acceptable, but local interest stories (i.e., those concerning Calgary and / or Canada) and those describing an actuarial application are especially good. The portfolio will be graded subjectively on the basis of its size, article diversity, thoroughness, and actuarial relevance.

In addition to the portfolio itself, a student will be required to write a short essay (say, 7 to 20 pages) exploring one or more of the stories in more detail. Your essay might critically review a story, or compare and contrast the viewpoint presented in one article with that in another. Of course, the essay

you write must be IN YOUR OWN WORDS, not cut and pasted from another source, not plagiarised, and with proper references given.

If time permits and if you are interested in doing so, then a classroom presentation of your project may also be arranged. Please speak to me during the term if you are interested in doing a classroom presentation.

COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM -- GRADING WINTER 2013

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Each piece of work submitted by the student will be assigned a percentage score. The average percentage score for each item of a term component will be combined with its course component weighting listed above to form a weighted average which is to be the final score in the course. This final score, a percentage out of 100, will then be converted to a letter grade using the following conversion table:

≥ 85%	A ±
≥ 70%	B ±
≥ 60%	C ±
≥ 50%	D ±
< 50%	F

As noted in the Calendar, this conversion table could be adjusted, but only if the grades of the students will not be lowered.

A passing grade in the Final Examination is essential for an overall grade of C- or better.