Instructor(s): Kay-Yut Chen

Office Number: 519

Office Telephone Number: 817-272-3502 (ISOM Department)

Email Address: kychen@uta.edu

Faculty Profile: http://wweb.uta.edu/insyopma/chen.html

Office Hours: Tue 1-2pm, appointment encouraged

Section Information: OPMA 5392-001, INSY 5392-001

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Tue 2-4:50pm, COBA 141

Description of Course Content: Structural modeling, estimation, behavioral testing and prediction of human responses. This is a class about the application of stochastic modeling. It is about the use of mathematical models to understand data.

This is not a lecture-focused and knowledge transfer kind of class. This is a class by doing. There is no homework, no tests and no exams. The class consists of a series of projects. The key principal is that students need to be able to debug and complete your project on your own.

Projects are drawn from real life examples, and one of them is an actual data science project of Hewlett-Packard. While real data cannot be provided, simulated data sets with the same structure and characteristics as the real one will be used.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will be able to develop a probability based structural model from the description of the data generating process.

2. The student will be able to implement such models in R or another platform.

3. The student will be able to estimate such models. The main method of estimation is maximum likelihood.

4. The student will be able to perform statistical tests and determine which part of the model is needed (significant).

5. The student will be able to incorporate timing structures to model the impact of past events on future ones.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

- There is no text book.
- Each student is assumed to have a laptop that can run R.
- R is the software to be used in the class.
• R Studio is the recommended frontend, but it is up to the student to decide what front-end, if any, to use.

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

• There will be 3 projects. Each student will be given a data set, and some guidance for each project. For each project, the student needs to:
  a) Hand in R script that analyze the data set, and may have to run it during class time
  b) Hand in a brief slide set explaining what has been done, and the results
  c) Present the technique used, and the results of the project

• Each project will take several weeks, including
  o lecture and discussions
  o lab session where students can work on their code, have discussions about math modeling, and ask questions.
  o a short presentation of the technique & results.

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will take attendance. However, attendance does not affect grades.

**Grading:**

Evaluation will be composed of two components:
1) Class project, including technical sophistication, the correctly recovery of model parameters and other factors (70%)
2) Project presentation (30%)

The instructor reserves the rights to adjust the final results at his discretion.

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

**Make-up Exams:** There is NO exam.

**Grade Grievances:** Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. Please see http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduate

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with
disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the
instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with
Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation
will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic
Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers
to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.
Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic
accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is
also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental
and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color,
national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in
its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and
working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher
Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational
programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination
in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of
sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/title IX
or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT
Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that
values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group
collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the
highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students
acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor
code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of
university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of
Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in
the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at
https://www.uta.edu/conduct/.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate
with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business
regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and
are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this
account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed
individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations
the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on
college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/
**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit [http://www.uta.edu/sfs](http://www.uta.edu/sfs).

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is to the left of the door and up the stairs. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php).

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The college of business has statistics tutoring in room 136.
### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug-21/23</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; project 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug-28/30</td>
<td>project 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sep-4/6</td>
<td>project 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sep-11/13</td>
<td>project 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sep-18/20</td>
<td>project 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sep-15/17</td>
<td>project 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct-2/4</td>
<td>project 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct-9/11</td>
<td>project 2 presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct-16/18</td>
<td>project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct-23/25</td>
<td>project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oct-30/Nov-1</td>
<td>project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov-6/8</td>
<td>project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov-13/15</td>
<td>project 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov-20/22</td>
<td>project 3 (Thanksgiving week, 1 class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Nov-27/29</td>
<td>project 3 presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dec-4/6</td>
<td>project 3 presentation</td>
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</tbody>
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As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Kay-Yut Chen

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**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.