STAT 598Z: Introduction to Computing for Statisticians

Chuanhai Liu, Department of Statistics, Purdue University

Spring 2014

INSTRUCTOR: Chuanhai Liu
Office: HAAS 224
E-mail address: chuanhai@purdue.edu
Lectures: T 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM, University Hall 217
T 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM, Stanly Coulter Hall 231

Office Hours:
GRADER: Qiu Yixuan
Office: 
Phone number: 
E-mail address: 

TEXTBOOKS:
1. The R Student Companion
   Brian Dennis
2. The C Programming Language (2nd Edition)
   by Brian W. Kernighan and Dennis M. Ritchie

PREREQUISITES:

- **Course Description**: The course (offered in Spring 2014) starts from the beginning of computing and assumes that the students have no computer programming background. It focuses on (1) computing concepts and programming skills in R at the level of the textbook entitled The R Student Companion by Brian Dennis, (2) basic computing concepts and programming skills in C, and (3) using R packages for data analysis.

- **Course Goals**: (1) understand computing concepts, (2) develop algorithmic thinking skills, and (3) master programming in R.

- **Course Outline**: http://www.stat.purdue.edu/~chuanhai/Stat598Z/index.html

- **Policies**:

  1. **Grading**: The course average will be determined solely from the following


Homework: 40%
Midterm Exam: 30%
Final Exam: 30%

The (final) numerical ranges for each letter grade:

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<tr>
<td>98-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>0-39</td>
<td>F</td>
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<td>93-97</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>60-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A−</td>
<td>55-59</td>
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<td>85-89</td>
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<td>75-84</td>
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<td>70-74</td>
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2. Homework assignments: Homework will be assigned most weeks. Homework assignment problems are not necessarily on the topics fully covered in class. You may discuss the homework problems with other students, but you should write up your solution independently.

3. Academic Dishonesty (the University policy): Purdue prohibits "dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty." [Part 5, Section III-B-2-a, see University Regulations at http://www.purdue.edu/univregs/] Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that "the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest." [University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972]

4. Attendance: The University policy for attendance is that Students are expected to be present for every meeting of the classes in which they are enrolled. Class attendance will be taken at random and used to adjust the final grades.

5. Missed or Late Work: (1) Late homework will not be accepted; (2) For students who miss midterm exams, their scores will be imputed based on their final exams. This doesn’t apply to students who work on term projects as alternatives to their final exams; and (3) Missed final exams will not be allowed.

6. Students with Disabilities: Purdue University is required to respond to the needs of the students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 through the provision of auxiliary aids and
services that allow a student with a disability to fully access and participate in the programs, services, and activities at Purdue University.

If you have a disability that requires special academic accommodation, please make an appointment to speak with me within the first three (3) weeks of the semester in order to discuss any adjustments. It is important that we talk about this at the beginning of the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the Disability Resource Center (http://www.purdue.edu/drc) of an impairment/condition that may require accommodations and/or classroom modifications.

7. **Emergencies:** In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructors control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

8. **Nondiscrimination:** Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life.

Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a veteran. The University will conduct its programs, services and activities consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and orders and in conformance with the procedures and limitations as set forth in Executive Memorandum No. D-1, which provides specific contractual rights and remedies.