

OPMA 6392: PhD Seminar in Behavioral Operations
Spring 2017

Instructor(s): Kay-Yut Chen

Office Number: 519

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

Email Address: kychen@uta.edu

Faculty Profile: <http://www.uta.edu/insyopma/chen.html>

Office Hours: Tue and Thu 1-2pm

Section Information: none

Time and Place of Class Meetings: COBA, Wed 11-2pm

Description of Course Content: PhD seminar in the area of behavioral operations

Student Learning Outcomes:

In general, this course has the following objectives

- 1) To learn to think and conceptualize academic problems like a researcher
- 2) To learn to write academic papers for journal submission
- 3) To expose you to the methods of modeling and experimental research
- 4) To gain experience in public presentation and speaking
- 5) To assist you with determining what you wish to do with a PhD and how to be successful as an academic

Specifically,

This course gives doctoral students an overview of the issues and methods involved in conducting Behavioral Operations Management (Behavioral OM) research. We will use articles from peer reviewed journals and selected book chapters that discuss methodological issues. We will examine examples taken from OM journals and those of other technology focused related fields, in particular, experimental economics. By the end of this course students will be capable of critiquing the methods of any peer reviewed article in the field as well as in any article they may write for peer review.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

1. A list of published paper provided separately

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING POLICY

Evaluation will be composed of four components:

- 1) Participation in class discussions (10%)
- 2) Paper presentation (30%)
- 3) Project paper (40%)
- 4) Paper review x 2 (20%)

Each student will be responsible for reading each of the assigned articles for the weekly class. Each week students will be responsible for a critique of selected articles. At the end of the course each student will have to write two reviews of a recent article in a top tier journal as if they were the peer reviewer. Finally, they will prepare a paper in which they will chose a project in a research area and actually write a paper to be submitted to a journal. These papers will be presented to the faculty of the department who will critique them.

All material covered in this course will be considered as content for the Operations Management major comprehensive exam. All assignments are individual.

The target assignment for letter grades will be as follows. However, because of the small size of the class, the instructor has full discretion of grade assignment at the end of the class.

A 90.0 - 100 points;

B 80 – 89.5 points;

C 70 - 79.5 points

D 60 - 69.5 points;

F Below 60 points

PRESENTATIONS

Each student will provide a 60 min presentation of each assigned article. The presentation should have two parts:

- 1) Research in the paper – the student will present the work as if he/she is the author. The presentation should include (but not limited to)
 - Motivation
 - Related literature
 - Research design (modeling, experimental, analysis)
 - Results
 - Major learning and insights
- 2) A Discussion of the Positioning, Contribution, Critique, and Possible Future Extension
 - What is the main contribution of the paper, with respect to the literature?
 - What is done right, and done wrong in this paper?
 - Should the paper be published?
 - What are some of the extensions of this direction of research?

See this as an opportunity to develop professional presentation skills which will assist you in your academic/professional career path.

PROJECT PAPER

Each student will prepare a project paper in which they will review the literature in a research area of their choosing, identify a research question to address a gap in the literature, and perform initial modeling analysis, experimental design or data analysis. To ensure maximum learning, the term paper involves several deliverables throughout the course. Each student will be required to propose their topic and methodology for approval and feedback. Next, each student will provide a draft of their literature review and proposed model for feedback. Lastly, the student will revise the model and methodology then present their paper and provide their paper for final review.

There will be a “paper proposal” session where each student will have 30 min to discuss their paper idea(s).

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.

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.

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/#undergraduatetext>

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://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at 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)*. 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 that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

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.

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.

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 available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be 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 enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: 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 www.uta.edu/resources.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics	Chapter	Assignment
1	20-Jan	Introduction	1	
	22-Jan	Graphical Description of Data	2	
2	27-Jan	Numerical Description of Data	3	
	29-Jan	Probability	6-1, 6-2 6-3, 6-4, 6-5	assignment 1 due
3	3-Feb	Probability		
	5-Feb	Exam 1		
4	10-Feb	Discrete Binomial Distribution	7	
	12-Feb	Continuous Distribution	8-1,	assignment 2 due
5	17-Feb	Normal Distribution	8-2,	
	19-Feb	Normal Distribution & Sampling	8/9	assignment 3 due
6	24-Feb	Review		
	26-Feb	Exam 2		
7	3-Mar	Exam & Assignment Review	-	
	5-Mar	Sampling & Estimation	9,10	assignment 4 due
8	10-Mar	Spring break – NO CLASS		
	12-Mar	Spring break – NO CLASS		
9	17-Mar	Estimation & Hypothesis Testing	11	
	19-Mar	Hypothesis Testing 1	12	assignment 5 due
10	24-Mar	Hypothesis Testing 2	13	
	26-Mar	Unknown Variance & T-distribution	14	assignment 6 due
11	31-Mar	Review		
	2-Apr	Exam 3		
12	7-Apr	Regression	16	
	9-Apr	Regression (Lab Project)	17	
14	14-Apr	Regression Review	18	assignment 7 due
	16-Apr	lab project (no class)		
15	21-Apr	lab project (no class)		
	23-Apr	Project Review		
16	28-Apr	Model Building	18-2,	
	30-Apr	Time Series and Forecasting	20	assignment 8 due
17	5-May	Review		
	7-May	Review		assignment 9 due
Final Exam	12-May	Final Exam		

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

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.
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