DePaul University • College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
LSP 120 • Quantitative Reasoning and Technological Literacy I Online
Winter 2012 – Section 220

Instructor: David Allbritton
Classroom (for exams): SAC 224
Course Web Page: d2l.depaul.edu (Desire2Learn)

INSTRUCTION INFORMATION

E-mail: dallbrit@gmail.com – You can e-mail me with questions, or post them in the Q&A Forum. I prefer you use the Q&A Forum for content-related questions in case several people have the same question. You can also chime in to help answer each other's questions in the forum. Doing so will help you learn the material, and I sometimes give some extra credit for doing so as well. I will usually respond to posts or emails within 24 hours (often much faster). If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, please e-mail me again, and be sure to put "LSP 120" in the subject line so it does not get spam filtered. I also request that you check your e-mail frequently (at least 4 days a week). Unfortunately we cannot meet in person (although lab teaching assistants are available in person in the Quantitative Reasoning Lab, SAC 268).

MATERIALS

You must have the following:

Reliable Internet Access

Microsoft Excel – I provide instructions on how to complete problems using Microsoft Excel 2007. Excel 2010 is very similar to Excel 2007 so you should be able to follow the Excel 2007 instructions. Instructions are available for Excel 2003 and MAC versions of Excel. You may also use Open Office but no instructions are available at this time.

D2L Compatible Browser – You need a browser that is supported by D2L.

Microsoft Word (or equivalent)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a mathematical foundation for students to become confident and critical users of quantitative information of all kinds: numerical, graphical, and verbal. Students analyze data from a wide variety of fields, making and critiquing quantitative arguments. Mathematical

topics include proportional reasoning and rates, the making and interpretation of graphs, linear and exponential models, logarithms, and finance. The course is taught in a hands-on laboratory environment where students are introduced to computer tools for data analysis and presentation. PREREQUISITE(S): MAT 100 or MAT 101 or ISP 110 or placement by the Mathematics Diagnostic Test. Students who plan to take calculus or business calculus as part of their major are exempt from this requirement. Students may place out of this course by passing the MTL Proficiency Exam. Formerly ISP 120.

OBJECTIVES

The Quantitative Reasoning and Technological Literacy course is designed to help student achieve the following objectives:

- Be aware of the variety of ways in which numbers are used
- Understand orders of magnitude and scientific notation
- Understand and critique quantitative arguments, whether given numerically, graphically, or in written form
- Interpret graphs
- Create graphs to describe quantitative data
- Use basic computer tools to analyze data
- Become acquainted with basic mathematical models and their limitations
- Learn financial applications such as calculating compound interest, computing loan payments and understanding basic tax concepts

COURSE GRADES

You can earn a total of 1000 possible points in this course. The following point scale will be used to determine your course grade at the end of the quarter:

930 – 1000 points = A
900 – 929 points = A-
870 – 899 points = B+
830 – 869 points = B
800 – 829 points = B-
770 – 799 points = C+
730 – 769 points = C
700 – 729 points = C-
670 – 699 points = D+
600 – 669 points = D
599 points and below = F

EVALUATION

- Quizzes (100 points) – Quizzes will be assigned each week and are linked within the chapter reading. Quizzes must be completed by Friday at midnight. Each quiz may be attempted more than once before the due date to improve your score (see the Schedule under Events in D2L for due dates/times). **The due date to complete the quiz will not be extended under any circumstances.**
- Assignments (250 points) – Assignments are used in conjunction with the course reading materials and quizzes to learn various math concepts usually working with Excel. Some assignments are worth 10 points. Others will contain more questions and are worth 35 points. The assignments are located within the chapter readings and are due on Sundays before midnight. There will be a 3-day grace period for submitting work if you request an extension via e-mail. You must request the extension before the assignment due date/time (by Sunday, midnight). Please note that the drop box date remains open for late submissions. **Late papers may be accepted on a case-by-case basis and are subject to a 30% penalty.**
- Paper (150 points) – Due date to be determined. **Late papers will not be accepted under any circumstances.**
- Exams One and Two (200 points, 100 points each) – Exam One will be Saturday, January 28th from 11a – 1p in SAC 224 and Exam Two will be February 18th from 11a – 1p in SAC 224. **There are no make-up exams in this course.** If you cannot attend an exam you must inform me by phone or e-mail prior to the exam. In the case of an excused absence (you contacted me prior to the exam), your final exam will count as 40% toward your final grade. If you do not contact me prior to the exam, you will receive a grade of 0. **You may have only one excused absence.** If you miss both exams, one exam will be recorded as 0. Exam questions will be based on the reading materials, quizzes and assignments.

- Final Exam (300 points) - The final exam will be given Saturday, March 10th from 11a – 1p in SAC 224.. All students are required to take the final exam. ***<u>**To pass the course you must show a minimum level of comprehension on the final exam by scoring at least 55%**</u>***. If you cannot take the final exam on March 10th due to a family emergency, illness, etc. it is your responsibility to contact me prior to 11a on March 10th and the Dean of Students Office to request that they notify me of the reason for your

absence. **You will not be allowed to make-up the final exam unless I am contacted by the Dean of Students Office notifying me of the reason for your absence.** Final exam questions will be based on the reading materials, quizzes and assignments.

GRADES OF INCOMPLETE

Grades of Incomplete are given only in cases of medical emergency or other highly unusual situations. If such a situation should occur, please inform me as soon as possible.

VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Violations of academic integrity, particularly plagiarism, are not tolerated. Plagiarism is defined by the university as:

> *"..a major form of academic dishonesty involving the presentation of the work of another as one's own. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to the following:*
>
> *a. The direct copying of any source, such as written and verbal material, computer files, audio disks, video programs or musical scores, whether published or unpublished, in whole or part, without proper acknowledgement that it is someone else's.*
>
> *b. Copying of any source in whole or part with only minor changes in wording or syntax, even with acknowledgement.*
>
> *c.* ***Submitting as one's own work a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report or other assignment that has been prepared by someone else.*** *This includes research papers purchased from any other person or agency.*
>
> *d. The paraphrasing of another's work or ideas without proper acknowledgement.*
>
> *Plagiarism, like other forms of academic dishonesty, is always a serious matter. If an instructor finds that a student has plagiarized, the appropriate penalty is at the instructor's discretion. Actions taken by the instructor do not preclude the college or the university from taking further punitive action including dismissal from the university" (DePaul Student Handbook).*

I will strictly adhere to university policies on academic integrity, because both DePaul University and I value honesty, integrity, and hard work. This entails doing your own work on exams, and acknowledging work done with others (e.g., on homework assignments) or any outside sources you may use. It also includes placing your name only on assignments (including group assignments) that you actually worked on. Submission of work in this course constitutes a pledge that the work is original and consent to have the work submitted to verify that fact.

Please be aware that any written work submitted in this course may be verified using *Turn-It-In* technology (or equivalent) in order to ensure that the work is the student's own creation and not in violation of the University's Academic Integrity Policy. At the very least, a violation of academic integrity within this course will result in an F; it may even result in dismissal from the university. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with DePaul University's full academic integrity policy and disciplinary procedures. Consult (http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/ or http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/AcademicIntegrityPolicy.pdf) for further details.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate reasonable accommodation based on your needs, contact me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the:

- PLuS Program (for LD, AD/HD) at 773-325-1677, Student Center #370, and/or
- The Office for Students with Disabilities (for all other disabilities) at 773-325-1677, Student Center #370

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1	Percentages	Week 6	Consumer Price Index
Week 2	Percentages	Week 7	Exponential Models; Exam Two
Week 3	Percentages; Exam One	Week 8	Exponential Models; Financial Management
Week 4	Graphs	Week 9	Financial Management
Week 5	Trendlines	Week 10	Financial Management; Final Exam

STUDENT TRAINING IN MICROSOFT SOFTWARE

Media Production and Training provides free technology training for students on Microsoft Office 2007 products such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneNote. There are group classes targeted towards each level such as beginner, intermediate and advanced as well as one on one

consultations that can be targeted toward particular projects. Visit http://www.itd.depaul.edu/website/students/grouptraining.asp for further technical resources such as Quick Guides and information/registration for group classes or individual consultations.

WRITING CENTER

Consider visiting the Writing Center in Lincoln Park or the Loop to discuss your written assignments for this course. Writing Center Tutors are specially trained undergraduate and graduate students who can help you at any stage of your writing project. They can help you focus and develop your ideas, review your drafts, and polish your writing, as well as answer questions about grammar, mechanics, style, and citation. Visit www.depaul.edu/writing to learn more.