

Module 3 - Statistics: Past, Present and Future

STA 652 - Module 3

Statistics: Past, Present and Future

Module & Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr Tom Fisher

Place: McVey DSB 337

Time: MW 10:05am-11:25am; April 9 to May 9 (+ final exam session)

Office Hours: TBD

Module Overview

Readings, presentations, and writing on the history of statistics, current issues of discussion in the discipline, and emerging areas at the cutting edge of statistical research.

Textbook (and reading material)

There is no textbook in this course but many articles and other materials will be provided for reading.

Module Format

This module is going to feel different than any other module in the STA 561-562 sequence. In fact, it is going to be different than nearly every other course taught in the department. In many ways, this class is more similar to an undergraduate humanities course! Most of our class periods will have students presenting and discussing three or four papers. Each presentation will be 10-15 minutes in length, followed by a class discussion. All topics and papers will be provided in advance!

All students are expected to read at least one of the papers in advance, and read the abstracts (or introductions) of all papers before class. Each student is expected to participate regularly in class discussions.

The presentations in each class (except for the first day) will be student led! This, each student will carefully read a paper, prepare a short presentation and review essay for two of the presentations in

this course.

Grade Distribution

- **Presentations** (40%) - each student will provide two presentations, based on papers about a history topic, a current issue, or an emerging area in statistics topic (must be two of three topics). The presentation should be 10-15 minutes in length, and given an **overview** of the paper, along with any **noteworthy or interesting elements** in the paper. The presenter should also prepare at least three **discussion questions** that can be used to spark class discussion about the work.
- **Review Essays** (40%) - each student will write two essays, corresponding to the papers that you present to the class. Each essay should be about 3 pages in length. The essay should include three main sections: a half page to one page **overview** of the paper, a one to one-and-a-half page section beginning with a **thesis statement** [↗\(https://www.scribbr.com/academic-essay/thesis-statement/\)](https://www.scribbr.com/academic-essay/thesis-statement/) and using material from the paper (or elsewhere in the related literature) to defend the thesis, and concluding with a half page to one page with **discussion questions and answers**. You may incorporate elements from the class discussion in your essay (in fact, I encourage you to do so!) but if you borrow substantial ideas from the class or peers, you should give appropriate credit.
- **Readings & Discussion Participation** (20%) - self reported reading of one paper per class session and engagement in class discussions.

Note on Attendance

This class will only work with active participation and attendance. Students are expected to attend every class period. Even if you are not signed up as the presenter, missing class without a valid excuse is disrespectful to both your peers and instructor and will result in a point deduction.

Final Exam Window

The final exam time, Friday, May 16 from 10:15am-12:15pm is reserved to finish up any loose ends or to complete any presentations that have been delayed or need to be rescheduled. Plan to be in class on that day!

Presentation Sign-up!

Each student is expected to sign up for two presentations. Note, students should NOT sign up for two topics in the same category (History, Current Issues, Future Directions). [You can sign up here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4BABAB23A0FE3-56160917-sta562) [↗\(https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4BABAB23A0FE3-56160917-sta562\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4BABAB23A0FE3-56160917-sta562)!

Class Calendar

(<https://miamioh.instructure.com/courses/228824/pages/module-3-calendar>)