

Georgia Southwestern State University
Business Forecasting
MGNT- 4660 – Fall 2008
Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Cecilia Maldonado
DAYS/TIMES: MW 2:00 - 3:15pm
OFFICE: BHP 219 Tel. 229-931-2883.
OFFICE HOURS: MWF 8-10am, MWF 11am-2pm, or by appointment any other day and time.
EMAIL ADDRESS: cmt@canes.gsw.edu, cmaldonado57@yahoo.com, or our WebCT page
TEXTBOOK: Business Forecasting.
Authors: Hanke and Wichern, 9th Edition
Prentice Hall
SOFTWARE REQUIRED: Minitab 15 (6 month rent is \$29.99) or you can use the computer lab in BHP 310.

Prerequisites:
BUSA 3050.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the analysis of business fluctuations as a major factor in forecasting business activity on a general level as well as for the individual firm. The importance of forecasting is included along with consideration of macro- economic forces which affect forecasts and various methods of analysis for determination of cyclical factors and other methods of preparing and documenting forecasts.

Methods of Learning

Since this is an online course, I encourage you to perform all the assignments. The tests are based in the readings and problems of the chapters in the text.

Minitab Software

If you decide to rent the software for 6 months, you need to download it from e-academy.com/minitab. Be sure you meet the system and Internet requirements. Go to the English version. You need to register as Academic user via Campus email Registration and you'll receive your registration password via email. Then login with that password and download the software.

Course Evaluation

You will have several opportunities to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the principles taught in this course.

Quizzes (7@ 50 each)	350 points	Grading Scale
Cases (6@50 each)	300 point	A=900 - 1,000 points
Minitab exercises (6@50)	300 points	B=800 - 899 point
Attendance	50 points	C=700 - 799 points
		D=600 - 699 points
		F=Below 600 points
Total	<hr/> 1,000 points	

Your final grade for the course is based on the number of point you've earned during the semester:

Tentative Course Schedules

<i>Date</i>	<i>Ch</i>	<i>Chapter Title or Activity</i>	<i>Assignment</i>
Aug. 15	1	Introduction to Forecasting	
Aug. 18-29	2	A Review of Basic Statistical Concepts	
Aug. 29-31			Quiz1 (ch1,2)
Sep. 3-12	3	Exploring Data Patterns and Choosing a Forecasting Technique	
Sep.5			Case chapter 2 due
Sep. 12			Minitab ex Ch3 due
Sep. 12-14			Quiz2 (ch3)
Sep. 15-26	4	Moving Averages and Smoothing Models	
Sep 19			Case ch3 due
Sep 26			Minitab ex ch4 due
Sep. 26-28			Quiz3 (ch4)
Sep 29- Oct.8	5	Time Series and Their Components	
Oct. 3			Case ch4 due
Oct. 10		Note: no class Oct. 10	Minitab ex ch5 due
Oct. 10-12			Quiz4 (ch5)
Oct. 15-24	6	Simple Linear Regression	
Oct. 17			Case ch5 due
Oct. 24			Minitab ex ch6 due
Oct. 24-26			Quiz 5 (ch6)
Oct. 27- Nov. 7	7	Multiple Regression Analysis	
Oct. 31			Case ch6 due
Nov. 7			Minitab ex ch7
Nov. 7-9			Quiz6 (ch7)
Nov. 10- Dec. 3	8	Regression with Time Series Data	
Nov. 14			Case ch7 due
Dec. 3			Minitab ex ch8 due
Dec. 3-7			Quiz7 (ch8)

Important ADA notice

If you have a disability which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work and/or if you need special accommodation/assistance due to the disability, please contact the Student Support Services located in the first floor of Sanford Hall or by phone (229) 931-2294. Appropriate arrangements/accommodations can be arranged.

Other Important Considerations

There are some specific expectations from you, such as a good behavior in the classroom and no other activities are allowed during class time (no homework or other activities from other classes). Attendance is required. Academic dishonesty will receive an F as final grade plus other disciplinary action. You require to have access to a computer with Internet access and with basic software installed (MS Word, MS Excel, etc.), beside you require to have access to MINITAB Statistical Analysis Software. No make-up quizzes, except in rare instances (documentation may be required).

No make-up quizzes. The quizzes will be open since Friday 8am until Sunday 11pm. You will have 3 hours to complete them. You can revisit the questions, but you will have only one attempt to do it.

I don't give grades, you earn them. I don't give extra points, you accumulate the points during all the activities during the semester.