Instructor: John E. Kolassa  
  ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS: kolassa@stat.rutgers.edu  
  Please do not send e-mail with formats other than plain text or PDF.  
  OFFICE: Hill Center 565. ☑ 848-445-7674, but please email rather than call.  
  HOURS: 4:30-5:30 Tuesday and Thursday.  
  Course Meeting Time: Tu 6:40 – 9:30 PM HLL 116  
  Text:  
  REQUIRED: Available at the university bookstore.  
  RESERVE: Available at the Math and Physics library, Hill Center.  
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  Course Goals: Be able to  
  1. Articulate standard statistical criteria for what makes for good inference.  
  2. Apply these criteria to a variety of statistical models, including to some common models, to determine optimal inference.  
  Requirements:  
  HOMEWORK: Graded homework, constituting 30% of the final grade, will be assigned approximately biweekly. Solutions will be supplied. Students are encouraged to consult with each other and the instructor when contemplating these problems but are expected to draft their solutions themselves. Students who submit correct homework solutions without fully understanding them can expect substantially lower grades on exams. The lowest homework grade will be dropped. This provision is meant to accommodate personal emergencies, and constitutes all such indulgence I expect to give in most cases. Students are responsible for locating computing resources needed for homeworks.  
  EXAMS: Exams will be closed–book. Except possibly in the case of a *bona fide* emergency no makeup exams will be given. Absolutely no makeup exam will be given and no alternate source of credit will be given for predictable conflicts with exam times unless such an arrangement is requested within the first two weeks of class.  
  MIDTERM: in class, accounting for 30% of the final grade.  
  FINAL: One the day that the class generally meets during finals week, accounting for 40% of the final grade.  
  CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION: will not be explicitly graded. Students are responsible for any information and assignments discussed in class.  
  Prerequisites: Probability (960:580, 582, or 592). I expect, but don’t insist, that students will have completed at least a first course in statistical methods.  
  Web Page: http://www.stat.rutgers.edu/~kolassa/960-563