



**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**

**MBA(FS)
MBA (Leadership) Program
Dalhousie University
School of Business Administration
Faculty of Management**

BUSI 5503 – Quantitative Decision Making

Fall 2020

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Course Description:

This is a course in the Statistical Foundation for Business Analytics. Business Analytics refers to a general set of quantitative techniques used to solve business problems through quantitative reasoning. The application of quantitative methods to solving business problems is not new. However, the recognition of the significant potential of quantitative methods to increase organization productivity and often to create a firm's competitive advantage is new.

With the advent of the knowledge economy, data analysis techniques such as statistical analysis, multiple regression and risk assessment can often outperform more traditional business approaches

Learning Objectives:

This course will provide the student with the basic statistical business analytic tools available in business analytics. The course text will be supplemented with assignment exercises that apply the concepts.

Learning Materials:

1. Anderson, Sweeney and Williams, The Essentials of Statistics for Business and Economics, 9th Edition, West Publishing Company, 2017.
2. For each module in the course there are videos which review the material and work through exercises.
3. PDF's of course notes provides objectives for each module as well as recommended exercises from the text for practice.

Grading Scale for Masters Students

Grading Scale as per Dalhousie Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar
Regulation 6.6.2 Grading Policy

Letter Grade	Numerical % equivalent
A+	90 - 100
A	85 - 89
A-	80 - 84
B+	77 - 79
B	73 - 76
B -	70 - 72
F	0-69

Method of Evaluation/ Marking Scheme: (example)

Assignments (5)	30%
Participation Online/Intensive	10%
<u>Final examination*</u>	<u>60%</u>
Total	100%

* Students must pass the final exam in order to pass the course.

Assignment #1	Sunday, Sept 27 at 23:59 AST (Halifax time)
Assignment# 2	Sunday, Oct 18 at 23:59 AST (Halifax time)
Assignment #3	Sunday, Nov 8 at 23:59 AST (Halifax time)
Assignment #4	Sunday, Nov 29 at 23:59 AST (Halifax time)
Assignment #5	Saturday, Dec 13 at 17:00 AST (Halifax time)

Class Participation and Performance:

A small part of your participation grade will come from your participation in online discussions. At the beginning of each discussion period (see schedule below) a series of discussion questions will be posted to the discussion board. Students are required to respond to one of these questions. The structure and details of what is expected as a response will be found on the discussion forum once the course starts. (see the introductory letter from the professor)

Dates

Discussion 1 Sept 2 – Sept 22

Discussion 2 Sep 23 – Oct 13

Discussion 3 Oct 14 – Nov 4

Discussion 4 Nov 5 – Nov 26

The majority of your participation grade will come from the intensive where you will be given practice problems everyday to test your knowledge of that day's material.

Online Lectures / Q&A session Schedule

This course will have 4 live events spaced out to occur shortly before the 4 assignments for this course. The schedule for these events are below and you will find access to these live events on your course once it opens:

Topic	Date	Time (Tentative)
Assignment 1	Sunday, September 20	5 PM Halifax Time
Assignment 2	Sunday, October 11	5 PM Halifax Time
Assignment 3	Sunday, November 1	5 PM Halifax Time
Assignment 4	Sunday, November 22	5 PM Halifax Time

Intensive

The online intensives for this course will be held December 9-12 (EST) and December 3-6 (AST). The final exam will be written on the last day of each intensive respectively.

Every online/blended course has an intensive as part of the course. The intensives are a mandatory part of the course and must be attended. If for any reason you are unable to attend an intensive, please contact both the professor and the program office.

Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence

Dalhousie students are asked to take responsibility for their own short-term absences (3 days or less) by contacting their instructor by phone or email prior to the academic requirement deadline or scheduled time and by submitting a completed Student Declaration of Absence to their instructor in case of missed or late academic requirements. Only 2 separate Student Declaration of Absence forms may be submitted per course during a term.

Read more: [https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/policy-repository/StudentAbsenceRegulation\(OCT2017\)v2.pdf](https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/dept/university_secretariat/policy-repository/StudentAbsenceRegulation(OCT2017)v2.pdf)

Faculty Information: Student Self-Declaration of Absence:

https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/academic-policies/student-absence/student-absence---for-faculty.html

Accessibility

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers experienced related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic protected under Canadian human rights legislation.

Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Student Accessibility Centre prior to or at the outset of the regular academic year. Please visit www.dal.ca/access for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation form.

A note taker may be required as part of a student's accommodation. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term (with some exceptions). If you are interested, please contact the Student Accessibility Centre at 902-494-2836 for more information or send an email to notetaking@dal.ca

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom, untouched, so that students who require their usage will be able to fully participate in the class.

Read more: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Accreditation

As an AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accredited university, Dalhousie University's business programs are subject to Assurance of Learning (AOL) standards. During the semester anonymous data may be collected to assess if AOL goals and objectives are being met. The data collected will be used for program improvement purposes only and will not impact nor be associated with student grades.

Academic Integrity

The commitment of the Faculty of Management is to graduate future leaders of business, government and civil society who manage with integrity and get things done. This is non-negotiable in our community and it starts with your first class at Dalhousie University. So when you submit any work for evaluation in this course or any other, please ensure that you are familiar with your obligations under the Faculty of Management's Academic Integrity Policies and that you understand where to go for help and advice in living up to our standards. You should be familiar with the Faculty of Management Professor and Student Contract on Academic Integrity, and it is your responsibility to ask questions if there is anything you do not understand.

Dalhousie offers many ways to learn about academic writing and presentations so that all members of the University community may acknowledge the intellectual property of others. Knowing how to find, evaluate, select, synthesize and cite information for use in assignments is called being "information literate." Information literacy is taught by Dalhousie University Librarians in classes and through Dalhousie Libraries' online [Citing & Writing](#) tutorials.

Do not plagiarize any materials for this course. For further guidance on what constitutes plagiarism, how to avoid it, and proper methods for attributing sources, please consult the University Secretariat's [Academic Integrity](#) page.

Please note that Dalhousie subscribes to plagiarism detection software that checks for originality in submitted papers. Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a very serious academic offence that may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. At Dalhousie, there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course; students should read the Policy on [Intellectual Honesty](#) contained in the Calendar.

Furthermore, the University's Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student assignments be submitted in both written and computer readable format, e.g.: a text file or as an email attachment, and to submit any paper to a check such as that performed by the

plagiarism detection software. As a student in this class, you are to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course instructor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand. Use of third-party originality checking software does not preclude instructor use of alternate means to identify lapses in originality and attribution. The result of such assessment may be used as evidence in any disciplinary action taken by the Senate.

Finally: If you suspect cheating by colleagues or lapses in standards by a professor, you may use the confidential email: managementintegrity@dal.ca which is read only by the Assistant Academic Integrity Officer.

Faculty of Management clarification on plagiarism versus collaboration:

There are many forms of plagiarism, for instance, copying on exams and assignments. There is a clear line between group work on assignments when explicitly authorised by the professor and copying solutions from others. It is permissible to work on assignments with your friends but only when the professor gives you permission in the specific context of the assignment. University rules clearly stipulate that all assignments should be undertaken individually unless specifically authorised.

Specific examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Copying a computer file from another student, and using it as a template for your own solution
- Copying text written by another student
- Submitting the work of someone else, including that of a tutor as your own

An example of acceptable collaboration includes the following:

- When authorised by the professor, discussing the issues and underlying factors of a case with fellow students, and then each of the students writing up their submissions individually, from start to finish.

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.

Read more: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-life-policies/code-of-student-conduct.html

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2).

Read more: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University acknowledges that the University is located on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory.

You may also wish to provide the following information: The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support. Visit the office in the McCain Building (Room 3037) or contact the programs at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803 (leave a message).

University Policies, Statements, Guidelines

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and the Senate.

<https://academiccalendar.dal.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog>

Provide required links to:

- Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html
- University Grading Practices: Statement of Principles and Procedures
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Statement On The Use Of Scented Products:

Dalhousie University and the organizations which represent students, faculty and other employees support the efforts of the Dalhousie University Environmental Health and Safety Committee to create a scent-free University. In consideration of the difficulties that exposure to these products cause sensitive individuals, the University encourages faculty, staff, students and visitors to avoid the use of scented personal care products. Thank you for helping us all breathe easier!

Read more: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>