

QMB 5311 | Quantitative Methods

Spring 2026 | GBC 520K | Saturdays 8.00 am to 12.00 pm

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor

Nicolas Cachanosky

email

ncachanosky@utep.edu

Office location & hours

BUSN 305, M&W, 10.30 AM – 1.00 PM
and by appointment

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND POLICIES

QMB 5311 is a graduate course in business quantitative methods. This course is designed to help students use quantitative methods to make better business decisions. We will cover basic mathematical and statistical techniques employed in solving business problems, including probability theory and tests of hypotheses. We will also learn how to better understand and forecast data. Businesses are constantly called to forecast data to make investment decisions and plan budgets. We often rely on judgment to make those forecasts, but quantitative methods can add useful insight into this process.

TEXTBOOK

There is **no textbook required** for this class. Reading material will be provided by the faculty through Blackboard.

Recommended materials include:

Essentials of Statistics for Business & Economics

Cengage

Camm, Cochran, Fry, Ohlmann, Anderson, Sweeney, Williams

ISBN: 978-0-357-71601-4

Statistics for Business and Economics

Pearson

McClave, Benson, Sincich

Business Statistics: A Decision-Making Approach

Pearson

Groebner, Shannon, Fry

GRADING POLICY

Problem sets:	25%	Grading scale
Exam 1:	25%	(90 – 100] A
Exam 2:	25%	(80 – 90) B
Final Exam:	25%	(70 – 80) C
		(60 – 70) D
		[0 – 60) F

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Office hours and appointments: If you need to meet with me but cannot do it in person or during my regular office hours, we can schedule an appointment to meet in person or online at a different time and day. Please plan this ahead as I may not be available at the last moment.

E-mail: UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When emailing me, email from your UTEP student account, and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name and your university identification number.

Blackboard discussion board: If you have a question that you believe other students may also have, please post it in the Help Board of the discussion boards inside of Blackboard. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response.

Blackboard announcements: Check Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.

NETIQUETTE (NETWORK ETIQUETTE)

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean, given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep this netiquette (network etiquette) guideline in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider your audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of others' ideas.
- Respect and courtesy must be always provided to classmates and to the instructor. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated.
- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professors only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space.

COURSE POLICIES

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance is not part of your course grade. This is a graduate-level course, so your self-motivation should be enough for you to regularly attend class. Even though missing classes will not affect your grade, I highly recommend that you try not to miss any classes.

Participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also for creating a community of learners. You are expected to read the material ahead of time and participate in class.

COURSE DROP POLICY

According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of "W" before the course drop deadline and with a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline." See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excused absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance

in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will drop you from the course. I will provide 24-hour advance notice via email.

or

I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you risk receiving an "F" for the course.

ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES

I strongly suggest you submit your work with plenty of time to spare if you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) as a backup. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your backup document as a last resort.

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE

Some of your coursework and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism-detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIAL

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instructions will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 Health and Safety and Section 1.2.2.5 Disruptions in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

Classes with on-campus meetings: Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.

TEST PROCTORING SOFTWARE (FOR ONLINE EXAMS)

Any midterms and final exam to be completed online will make use of **Respondus Lock Down Browser** and **Respondus Monitor** inside of Blackboard to promote academic integrity. You are encouraged to learn more about how to use these programs prior to the first test.

Please review the following guidelines:

- The assessments will only be available at the times identified on the course calendar.
- You may take the test at any time while the assignment is open for completion.
- A reliable Internet connection is essential to completing the exam. If you must go to a location to take the exam (such as the library), be sure to follow their health and safety requirements.
- Respondus Lockdown Browser will require that all internet tabs are closed before the start of the test.
- Respondus Monitor requires a webcam and microphone.
- You will be required to show the webcam your student ID prior to the start of the test.
- Your face should be completely visible during the test. Blocking the camera will disable the test.
- No notes or textbook materials are permitted during the test. Respondus Monitor requires you to take a video of your surrounding area (desk, chair, walls, etc.)
- You should not have conversations with other people and/or leave and return to the area during the test.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week Saturdays

1 **Jan 17 – GBC**
Lecture 1: Descriptive Statistics

2 **Jan 24 – Hybrid**
Lecture 2: Probabilities

3 **Jan 31 – GBC**
Lecture 3: Interval Estimation and Hypothesis Testing

4 **Feb 07 – Hybrid**
Lecture 4: Inference About Means and Variances

5 **Feb 14 – GBC**
Lecture 5: ANOVA
Exam 1 😬

6 **Feb 21 – Hybrid**
Lecture 6: Comprehensive Review

7 **Feb 28 – GBC**
Lecture 7: Introduction to Econometrics I
TBD

8 **Mar 07 – Hybrid**
Lecture 7: Introduction to Econometrics II
Exam 2 😬

9 **Mar 14 – GBC**
Regression Application

10 **Mar 21**
Spring Break Week: No Class

11 **Mar 28 – GBC**
Final Exam 😊
