Course Syllabus

Instructor Resources

Registrar's Intranet: please log in with your UTD NetID and password to access this site. Information that faculty need about grading, scheduling, and other essential aspects of our responsibilities related to teaching are made available and updated regularly in the Registrar's Intranet. This source of information can only be accessed by logging in with your UTD NetID and password. Many important faculty questions are answered here, and this is information that faculty members are expected to know and understand.

FERPA Guidelines: you will be asked to log in before you access the FERPA Faculty Guidelines webpage on the Registrar's Intranet. If faculty have additional questions about FERPA guidance, please contact the Office of the Registrar at records@utdallas.edu for the proper student consent forms and further instructions. NOTE: Class recordings from prior semesters may be used as long there are no identifiable student information due to FERPA because instructors will need students' written consent first. Please review your previous class recordings for identifiable student information before using them in the current term. For additional guidance, contact the Office of the Registrar.

Honorlock: Online proctoring tool will be available for fully online courses and for classes with enrolled international students who are not yet in the United States.

UT System Resources for Creating Accessible Course Content: designed to assist faculty with developing course content

Course Information

Course Prefix, Number, Section	*OPRE 6332.001 / HMGT 6335.001*
Course Title	*Spreadsheet Modeling and Analytics*
Term	*Spring 2026*
Days & Times	*Wednesday: 04:00pm-06:45pm*
Location	*JSOM 1.212*

Professor Contact Information

Professor	*Ignacio Rios*
Office Phone	*972-883-5174*
Email Address	*Ignacio.riosuribe@utdallas.edu*
Office Location	*JSOM 3.415*
Office Hours	*Wednesday, 2pm*
TA	*Abhijit Marar*
Email Address	abhijit.marar@utdallas.edu
Office Hours	Thursday 4-6pm

Course Modality and Expectations

Instructional Mode	Traditional
Course Platform	e-Learning for course material, discussions, assignments, exams, submissions, and everything else. Teams for online meetings.
Expectations	University guidelines recommend that you study 2-3 hours per week for every credit hour in which you are enrolled. That is, University expectations suggest you spend 6-9 hours outside of class every week on OPRE 6332 / HMGT 6335 homework and studying.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

This course explains the concepts of effective spreadsheet design and model building utilizing the electronic spreadsheet as the principal device. The course helps students to take an analytic view and acquire knowledge about specific decision making techniques for business, such as optimization and simulation, building spreadsheet models to identify choices, formalize trade-offs, specify constraints, perform sensitivity analyses, and analyze the impact of uncertainty. The course also examines the applications in finance, economics, marketing, and operations

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students are expected to develop skills on problem formulation, identification of appropriate statistical techniques, computer implementations in Excel, and interpretation of empirical results. Moreover, students will learn how to:

- Identify the conceptual structure of a decision or planning problem
- Understand the logic associated with the components and process of model development
- Assess the significance and limitations of model outputs for managerial insights and action
- Appreciate the power and limitations of MS Excel in modeling
- Appreciate the potential of management science in addressing management issues.

Required Textbooks and Materials

No Required Texts

Complementary Texts
Microsoft Excel 2019 Data Analysis & Business Modeling 6th edition by Wayne L. Winston, Microsoft Press, ISBN Book 978-1-5093-0588-9; e-book 978-1-5093-0613-8

The lecture notes, and other materials posted on eLearning should be sufficient for the students to learn the material. The optional textbooks are not required.

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage.

Regarding software requirements, you have to make sure you have a computer that runs Microsoft Excel. Moreover, you must install Oracle Crystal Ball extension for Microsoft Excel. This software is necessary to run simulations and perform sensitivity analysis. If you don't want to install it or if you are a Mac/Linux user, you can use the server that I set up for the class. To access the server, you must install Microsoft Remote Desktop, and then connect to the server named "SMVOPRE6332-01"; after entering, you will provide your netID and password, and you should be able to use it.

In the next link you will find instructions to install Remote Desktop:
How to install Remote Desktop

Note that, to access the server, you must either be connected to the UTD network, and you must be connected to a VPN.
How to access UTD's VPN

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the eLearning website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the Getting Started with eLearning webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Week	Dates	Topic	Deliverables
1	21 Jan	Introduction / Data Analysis (dating)	
2	28 Jan	Data Analysis (dating / college)	
3	4 Feb	Data Analysis (bike sharing / clustering)	HW1 Due Sun (end of day)
4	11 Feb	Modeling (mortgage / starbucks)	
5	18 Feb	Linear Optimization (Introduction / Restaurant/Diet)	HW2 Due Sun (end of day)
6	25 Feb	Linear Optimization (Adds / Sensitivity)	
7	4 Mar	Linear Optimization (Sensitivity) Midterm Review	HW3 Due Sun (end of day)
8	11 Mar	Midterm (no classes)	
9	18 Mar	**Spring Break (no classes)**	Midterm (all week)
10	25 Mar	**[NO CLASS - TO BE RESCHEDULED]**	
11	1 Apr	Discrete Optimization (introduction / investment)	
12	8 Apr	Discrete Optimization (scheduling / location) Simulation (Auction / Patawa) **[RESCHEDULED – Friday 4pm, SOM 2.903]**	HW4 Due Sun (end of day)
13	15 Apr	Simulation (Starbucks / Spring beer)	
14	22 Apr	Dynamics (intro/ internship)	
15	29 Apr	Final Review	HW5 Due Sun (end of day)
16	6 May	Final (no class) (everything not covered in the midterm)	Final (all week)

Grading Policy

Grades for this class will be based on:

- Homeworks: 30%
- Exam 1 (Midterm): 30%
- Exam 2 (Final): 30%
- Participation and attendance: 10%

Your final letter grade will be assigned based on your relative standing in the class, and is based solely upon the instructor's discretion and evaluation of the overall performance of the students in the class. Specifically, letter grades will be computed as follows:

1. I will compute the average for the homeworks. Lets call that average H (for homeworks).

2. I will compute the attendance / participation score based on the surveys you filled at the beginning of each class. Lets call that score A (for attendance).
3. Given the midterm (M) and the final (F), I will compute your overall score using the following formula: Overall = 0.3*M + 0.3*F + 0.3*H + 0.1*A
4. Finally, I will order students in decreasing order of Overall, and I will assign letter grades in order:
    - The top 5% of the class got A+ (symbolic; this is equivalent to A)
    - The next 15% of the class got A
    - The next 20% of the class got A-
    - The next 20% of the class got B+
    - The next 20% of the class got B
    - The next 10% of the class got B-
    - The remainder got C+, C, C- or F depending on their relative performance.

Course Policies

Exams

There will be 2 exams (a midterm and a final), both open-book and open-notes. Exams are NOT CUMULATIVE. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS will be scheduled. All exams will be in class. More details will be communicated prior to the exams.

Homeworks

Five homework assignments will be posted on e-learning under the “Assignments” folder in the course homepage. Please upload your assignments to e-learning by the due date mentioned in the calendar below. NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED! All homeworks require calculations on Excel, so please show how you arrived at the calculation. You may discuss homework problems with others, but you must write it up by yourself with full understanding of what you write. Identical assignments will be in violation of university regulations, will receive no credit, and may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Class Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. You must come to at least 50% of the sessions (i.e., you must attend at least 6 sessions) in person. Students who fail to satisfy these requirements are inviting scholastic difficulty. Moreover, attendance and class participation will count to 10% of your final grade.

Classroom Citizenship

Devices (computers, tablets, phones, etc.) are allowed in class but try to avoid using them for activities not related to the class (such as e-mail, internet, games, instant messenger, etc.) during our class sessions.

Class Materials

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an

approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students.

Please see http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class.

Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.