Prologue

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Course Objectives

- Learn the theory and application of modern categorical data analysis methodology
- Enhance presentation skills by presenting results to selected homework sets
- Enhance written communication skills
- Ask, seek and answer questions
My Expectations of You

- Be on time to class
- Participate in class discussions
- Complete homework assignments using an electronic editor (Word, LaTeX) unless otherwise directed
- The results of the homework should be communicated so that a person knowledgable in the methodology could reproduce your results.
- Do NOT turn in raw SAS (or R) output.
Class Schedule

- Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00 AM - 11.50 AM
- Place: One Capitol Square, 5th Floor, Room 5009
Course Materials

- Course website - http://people.vcu.edu/~dbandyop/BIOS625.18.html
- Lecture notes, and other important materials will be posted there. Homework assignments will be posted in the course Blackboard.
Grading Policy

- Homework and Class Participation: 40%
- Two midterm exams: 20% each
- Final exam: 20%
Using \LaTeX

- \LaTeX is the document preparation software of mathematics.
- Typesetting equations, tables and incorporating selected computer output is easily accomplished using latex.
- Learning \LaTeX is as easy as a quick Google Search.
- You need to install the necessary softwares:
  1. MikTex (contains the latex engine)
  2. Ghostview and GhostScript (only needed for legacy support and viewing DVI files)
  3. WinEdt (Text Editor to help writing Latex)
  4. Excel2Latex macro (link on the class website, helpful for converting Excel Tables to the latex format)
- and some patience ...
The lecture notes are produced using the \LaTeX package beamer.

On the screen, it looks like Powerpoint, but doesn’t print like power point (the output is a .pdf document)

To reduce the printing load of the class, select the printer options and print more than one page per .pdf. The photocopiers in our department can accomplish this pretty well.