

Course Outline

Course Code	RSM 326 H1F		
Course Name	Data Analytics with Financial Accounting Information		
Term, Year	Fall 2025		
Course Meets	LEC0101	Thursday 9am-11am	WO35
	LEC0201	Thursday 11am-1pm	WO35
	LEC0301	Thursday 3pm-5pm	RT 142
	TUT0101	Friday 9am-10am	SS 2125
	TUT0201	Friday 10am-11am	WO 35
	TUT0301	Friday 11am-12pm	BA 2175
Web page URL	https://q.utoronto.ca		

Instructor Details

Name	Email	Office Hours	Virtual Office Link
Kate Patterson	k.patterson@rotman.utoronto.ca	Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm By Appointment	See Quercus

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

This course introduces the analytical mindset and data analytics skills that accounting professionals need to analyze and evaluate a variety of data to create insights for making decisions. Specifically, you will learn to ask the right questions, prepare the relevant data, apply the appropriate data analytics methods, and interpret the results to answer the questions. You will also learn to use common data analytics tools, such as Excel, Access (SQL), and Tableau to prepare, analyze, and model financial data. Finally, you will apply the analytical mindset and data analytics skills to address various accounting, finance, and general business problems.

Course Prerequisites

RSM219H1, ECO220Y1/ECO227Y1/(STA220H1, STA255H1)/(STA237H1, STA238H1) / (STA257H1, STA261H1)

Course Materials

Required Readings

Highly recommended: Introduction to Data Analytics for Accounting, Richardson, Terrell and Teeter, McGraw Hill.

Electronic Course Materials

This course will be using the following electronic tools/applications:

Excel (for Windows), MS Access (for Windows), and Tableau.

Microsoft Office applications and Tableau are free to all students. **Students using Mac computers are required to use the Windows version of Microsoft Office** (to allow for full functionality), which may necessitate having a parallel Windows operating system (available for purchase if not already loaded) or be willing to use the Lab/Library computers to complete assignments. More information will be provided in a separate handout. The use of these materials complies with all University of Toronto policies which govern fees for course materials.

Evaluation and Grades

Grades are a measure of the knowledge and skills developed by a student within individual courses. Each student will receive a grade on the basis of how well they have command of the course materials, skills and learning objectives of the course.

Work	Percentage of grade	Due Date
Class Participation	10%	Ongoing
Homework	Not Graded	Weekly
Mid-Term Group Project	25%	TBA (see Quercus)
Final Individual Project	25%	TBA (see Quercus)
Final Exam	40%	Final Exam Period

Course Format and Expectations

Homework

There will be weekly take-home problems. The problems will be covered by the TA during the tutorial session and are therefore not graded. They serve as a practice and will significantly enhance the learning and preparation for the projects and the final exam. Completion of homework is highly encouraged.

Writing Assignments or Presentations

The two projects are intended to help you develop your communication skills. How well you communicate your ideas, in writing or orally, will be considered in the evaluation of the assignment. In your written assignments, you should aim for clarity, strong organization, concision, professionalism, and correct grammar. Your presentations should reflect strong planning and organization, clarity of speech, and an engaging demeanour. Sources, whether in written or presentation assignments, should always be correctly attributed.

Support is available through the RC Centre for Professional Skills (CPS) for students who would like help or feedback on their writing or speaking (presentations). CPS offers both individual and group appointments with trained writing instructors and presentation coaches who are familiar with the RC program and common types of business assignments. You can also access your college Writing Centres for help with written assignments.

You can book an appointment [with a writing or presentation coach](#) through the RC Centre for Professional Skills Writing Centre. For more information about writing centres, student supports, and study resources, see the [Writing and Presentation Coaching academic support page](#).

Team or Group Assignments – Midterm Group Project

The midterm group project students to work in teams of 4-5. Learning to work together in teams is a crucial transferrable skill you will use not only in your coursework, but also in your future careers. Support is available if you encounter common teamwork challenges such as:

- Team members feeling left out of the team.
- Team members not responding in a timely manner to communication.
- Division or quality of work among team members being unequal or unfair.

Consult the [Centre for Professional Skills Teamwork Resources page](#) for tips, strategies, and best practices. You can also [book an appointment with a teamwork mentor](#) through the RC Centre for Professional Skills Writing Centre or by emailing rotmancommerce.teamworkhelp@utoronto.ca. Teamwork mentors can help you resolve or mitigate conflict, strategize on planning, or improve team communication.

If you are a student registered with Accessibility Services, and extensions are one of your academic accommodations, consult with your Accessibility Advisor about the teamwork in this course.

Class Participation

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly and make every effort to attend every class. As class participation is a graded component of the course, students will be evaluated on the following:

- Thoughtful responses
- Understanding and analysis of topic
- Idea generation
- Promoting further discussion
- Respectful active listening
- Attentiveness

While attendance is necessary for students to participate in class discussions, attendance on its own will not result in a high participation grade. Students must actively contribute and participate by exhibiting the components listed above.

Rotman Commerce Attendance Policy

Rotman Commerce students are expected to make every effort to attend each class. Infrequently, students may miss term work, e.g., quizzes, assignments, etc., due to unplanned and extenuating circumstances and must follow the Request for Special Consideration process as outlined in their course outlines. However, Rotman Commerce will not approve any Request for Special Consideration for participation marks for missed classes. Any such request will be denied.

Missed Tests and Assignments

Students who miss a term test or assignment for reasons entirely beyond their control (e.g. illness) may request special consideration **within 2 business days** of the missed midterm/test/assignment due date.

In such cases, students must:

1. Complete the Request for Special Consideration form: <https://uoft.me/RSMConsideration>
2. Provide documentation to support the request, eg. Absence Declaration from [ACORN](#), [Verification of Illness Form](#) etc.

Please note: As of September 2023, students may use the Absence Declaration on ACORN ***one time per term*** to report an absence and request consideration. **Any subsequent absence will require a Verification of Illness form or other similar relevant documentation.**

Students who do not submit their requests and documentation within 2 days may receive a grade of 0 (zero) on the missed course deliverable.

Final Exams: If you miss the final exam in this course for a legitimate reason (illness, etc) you will need to contact your College Registrar to file a petition for a deferred exam. This deferred exam will be written at a later date as established by the Faculty of Arts & Science. Instructions can be found here: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/faculty-registrar/petitions-appeals/preparing-petition>

Late Assignments

All assignments are due on the date and at the time specified in Quercus. Late submissions will normally be penalized by 10% if the assignment is not received on the specified date, at the specified time. A further penalty of 10% will be applied to each subsequent day.

Statement on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Commitment to Accessibility

The University is committed to inclusivity and accessibility, and strives to provide support for, and facilitate the accommodation of, individuals with disabilities so that all may share the same level of access to opportunities and activities offered at the University.

If you require accommodations for a temporary or ongoing disability or health concern, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please [email Accessibility Services](#) or visit the [Accessibility Services website](#) for more information as soon as possible. Obtaining your accommodation letter may take up to several weeks, so get in touch with them as soon as possible. If you have general questions or concerns about the accessibility of this course, you are encouraged to reach out to your instructor, course coordinator, or Accessibility Services.

Plagiarism Detection

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the [University's Plagiarism Detection Tool FAQ](#) page from Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation.

Generative AI / ChatGPT

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools or apps for assignments in this course, including tools like ChatGPT and other AI writing or coding assistants, is prohibited.

The knowing use of generative artificial intelligence tools, including ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants, for the completion of, or to support the completion of, an examination, term test, assignment, or any other form of academic assessment, may be considered an academic offense in this course.

While students may use AI as a resource to help with their learning to understand a topic or other subject matter in this course; **representing AI-generated content as one's own idea, or expression of an idea, may be considered an academic offense in this course.** Furthermore,

students are responsible for independently verifying any information provided by AI is correct when using these tools as a learning resource.

Students may not copy or paraphrase from any generative artificial intelligence applications, including ChatGPT and other AI writing and coding assistants, for the purpose of completing assignments in this course.

This course policy is designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you reach course learning outcomes.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is a fundamental value essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree that you earn will continue to be valued and respected as a true signifier of a student's individual work and academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously.

[The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the process for addressing academic offences and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment (this includes collaborating with others on assignments that are supposed to be completed individually).

On test and exams

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else's answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) medical notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated by the procedures outlined in the [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#). If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in the course, please do not hesitate to contact the course instructor. If you have any questions about appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information from the instructor or other U of T or RC resources such as the RC Centre for Professional Skills, the College Writing Centres or the Academic Success Centre.

Email

At times, the course instructor may decide to communicate important course information by email. As such, all U of T students are required to have a valid UTmail+ email address. You are responsible for ensuring that your UTmail+ email address is set up and properly entered on ACORN. For more information visit the [Information Commons Help Desk](#).

Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Gmail or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Gmail accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that important messages from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Recording Lectures

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. **Students wishing to record a lecture or other course material in any way are required to ask the instructor's explicit permission and may not do so unless permission is granted.** Students who have been previously granted permission to record lectures as an accommodation for a disability are excepted. **This includes tape recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Quercus materials, etc.**

If permission for recording is granted by the instructor (or via Accessibility Services), it is **intended for the individual student's own study purposes and does not include permission to "publish" them in any way.** It is forbidden for a student to publish an instructor's notes to a website or sell them in any other form without formal permission.

Weekly Schedule

Session	Date	Topic	Recommended Readings
1	Thursday September 4	Using Data Analytics to Ask and Answer Accounting Questions	Chapter 1 Appendices 1A & 1B
2	Thursday September 11	Introduction to Accounting Data Data Types and How They Are Used	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
3	Thursday September 18	Preparing Data for Analysis 1 (Relational database, VLOOKUP, & Data Model)	Chapter 4
4	Thursday September 25	Preparing Data for Analysis 2 (Power Query & SQL)	Appendix 4A
5	Thursday October 2	Types of Data Analytics Descriptive Analytics	Chapter 5 (pp. 224-235) Chapter 6
6	Thursday October 9	Review of Basic Statistics Diagnostic Analytics	Chapter 5 (pp. 236-245) Chapter 7
7	Thursday October 16	Diagnostic Analytics (continued)	Chapter 7
8	Thursday October 23	Predictive Analytics	Chapter 8
9	Thursday November 6	Predictive Analytics (continued)	Chapter 8
10	Thursday November 13	Prescriptive Analytics	Chapter 9
11	Thursday November 20	Prescriptive Analytics (continued) Share the Story & Visualization	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
12	Thursday November 27	Share the Story & Visualization Catch up and Selected topics (ML/AI)	Chapter 10
December Final Exam Period			

Please note that the last day you can drop this course without academic penalty is Nov 11, 2025



Other Useful Links

- [Become a volunteer note taker](#)
- [Accessibility Services Note Taking Support](#)
- [Credit / No-Credit in RSM courses](#)
- [Rotman Commerce Academic Support](#)
- [Where to find teaching assistant opportunities](#)

URL links for print

- ACORN: <http://www.acorn.utoronto.ca/>
- Email Accessibility Services: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca
- Accessibility Services website: <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>
- University's Plagiarism Detection Tool FAQ: <https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>
- The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>
- Information Commons Help Desk: <http://help.ic.utoronto.ca/category/3/utmail.html>
- Become a volunteer note taker: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/program/volunteer-note-taking/>
- Accessibility Services Note Taking Support: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/service/note-taking-support/>
- Credit / No-Credit in RSM courses: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/degree-requirements/credit-no-credit-option/>
- Rotman Commerce Academic Support: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/academic-support/>
- Book an appointment with a writing or presentation coach: <http://uoft.me/writingcentres>
- Writing and Presentation Coaching academic support page: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/academic-support/writing-and-presentation-coaching/>
- Centre for Professional Skills Teamwork Resources page: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/teamwork-resources>
- Book an appointment with a Teamwork Mentor: <http://uoft.me/writingcentres>