

# **POL 676: Statistical Analysis of Big Data**

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Fall Spring 2026

Lecture: W 3:30-6:20

Course website: <http://www.michaelperess.com/teaching/bd2026.html>

**Prof: Michael Peress**

Email: [michael.peress@stonybrook.edu](mailto:michael.peress@stonybrook.edu)

Office: SBS N743

Overview: We will cover a variety of topics useful for the analysis of 'Big Data' including Bayesian Statistics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Nonparametrics, Text Analysis, and Ideal Point Estimation.

Grading: Grading (assuming good attendance) will be based on class participation and (extra credit) presentations (30%) and homework assignments (70%).

Course and University Policies:

**Student Accessibility Support Center Statement:**

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If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Student Accessibility Support Center, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, Room 128, (631)632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Student Accessibility Support Center. For procedures and information go to the following website: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities>.

**Academic Integrity Statement:**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty please refer to the academic judiciary website at: [http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic\\_integrity/index.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html)

**Critical Incident Management:**

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of University Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. Further information about most academic matters can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Undergraduate Class Schedule, and the Faculty-Employee Handbook.

**Technical Requirements:**

This course uses Blackboard for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students. The Blackboard course site can be accessed at:

<https://blackboard.stonybrook.edu>

If you are unsure of your NetID, visit:

<https://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/finding-your-netid-and-password>

for more information. You are responsible for having a reliable computer and Internet connection throughout the term. Students should be able to use email and a word processor to complete this course successfully.