Economics 250 — Midterm 1

17 October 2013

Instructions: You may use a hand calculator. Do not hand in the question and formula sheets. Answer all **three** questions in the answer booklet provided. Show your work: incorrect answers without any work shown cannot be given partial marks. Formulas and tables are provided at the end of the question pages; you may wish to detach these from the question pages for easier reference.

- 1. You obtain the following sample of 10 Canadian household incomes (in thousands of dollars): 67 67 66 64 68 73 69 77 90 69
 - a) Find the mean and median of the data.
 - b) Find the first and third quartiles of the data.
 - c) Find the sample standard deviation.
 - d) The data is actually grouped data of mean household incomes of the 10 Canadian provinces. Calculate the mean household income of the *last four* data points—the western provinces—by also using the following population counts (in millions):

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Household income:	69	77	90	69
Population:	1.3	1.1	3.8	4.6

- 2. Suppose that, in any given week, the price of gas per litre (in dollars), denoted X, is a random variable that follows a normal distribution with mean 1.2 and standard deviation 0.1.
 - a) Suppose that it costs you \$2 worth of your time, plus the cost of the gas, to fill up your car which takes 40 litres of gas. Denote the total cost of a fill-up as Y, and write down an expression for Y in terms of X.
 - b) Find the mean, variance, and standard deviation of Y.
 - c) Find the probability that, on a random week, the cost of a fill-up (i.e. the value of Y) will be:
 - (i) Below \$50.
 - (ii) Between \$42 and \$55.
 - (iii) Below \$42 or above \$55.
 - (*iv*) Exactly \$47 (assume no rounding of decimal prices).
 - d) A researcher obtains 25 observations of the gas price (i.e. observations of X, not of Y) and calculates the mean of those observations. Find the probability that the sample mean will be less than or equal to 1.23.

3. A researcher studying the effect of education on income collects data on whether or not the employees of a large Canadian corporation, BlueBerry, earned a university degree, and classifies the worker as having either a high-skill or low-skill job. The researcher uses a simple random sample to select 50 of the corporation's employees to interview.

Of the 50 employees surveyed, 18 have university degrees. Of those 18, 14 have high-skill jobs. Of the remaining surveyed employees, 15 have high-skill jobs.

- a) What is the population of the sample? Will the sample be appropriate for determining the relationship between university degrees and job skill levels among all Canadian workers?
- b) Form a two-way table of counts summarizing the data. Include a "Total" column and row in your table.
- c) Find the distribution of the skill variable conditional on having a university degree, and, separately, the distribution of the skill variable conditional on *not* having a university degree. Based on your results, is there a relationship between having a university degree and having a high-skill job for workers of this corporation?
- d) The researcher conducts the same survey at another Canadian corporation, Tom Hurten's, and estimates the following probabilities, where H indicates a high-skill job, L indicates a low-skill job, U indicates having a university education, and N indicates not having a university education:
 - $P(N \cap H) = 0.20$
 - $P(N \cap L) = 0.60$
 - $P(U \cap H) = 0.05$
 - (i) Find $P(U \cap L)$, P(U), P(H), and $P(U \cup H)$.
 - (*ii*) Find $P(H \mid U)$. Are having a university degree and having a high-skill job independent? Be sure to show a condition that is satisfied or not satisfied to support your answer.