



UTTyler
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

The University of Texas at Tyler
Soules College of Business
Department of Technology



TECH 5329 – RESEARCH TRENDS IN INDUSTRY

Course Syllabus

Course: TECH 5329
Title: Research Trends in Industry
Section: 560
Pre-requisite: None
Semester: Summer 2025
Class Time: Online
Class Location: Online Canvas

Instructor: Mohammed Ali, PhD, MBA, CSMS
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Preferred Method of Contact: email
Office Hours: MW 2:00 pm -5:00 p.m.
And by appointment

Course Description

The study and research of new and developing industrial techniques. Currently, Lean Six Sigma is a burgeoning technique. An in-depth analysis of the Minitab software package and how it can be used to analyze Six Sigma projects. The DMAIC approach and most topics currently covered on Lean Six Sigma certification exams will be discussed. A mini-research project is required and presented at the end of the course.

Lecture Notes and Classroom Environment:

The lecture notes will be available online on the Canvas site for the course. Additionally, students are required to take notes during face-to-face classes (if necessary and take place) on supplemental lecture materials, problem-solving, and diagrams that the instructor writes/draws on the classroom board. A student is **NOT allowed** to take photos of notes on the board.

Textbook (Required)

Khan, M. R. (2022). Six Sigma Statistics Using Minitab 21: Green Belt Edition. UK: Independently published. ISBN: 979 8427845953
(This book includes user-friendly instructions that are easy to follow when using Minitab. With only a few minor exceptions, it remains applicable to Minitab 22.)

Required Software:

Minitab Statistical Software: Cloud App & Windows Desktop (06-Mo Rental), Mac (06-Mo Rental) may be purchased for \$35.99 at (<https://onthehub.com/minitab>)

Note—Please be aware that the Minitab Mac version may not have all the interfaces required for completing assignments. Also, do not just get a free 30-day or other free copies, as they are time-sensitive and come with functionality constraints.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Explore the basic understandings of Minitab to define and formulate major components of Lean Six Sigma.
2. Investigate the benefits of Minitab and develop data sets using this software
3. Prepare and present a research project by employing Minitab.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Interpret statistical results using Minitab.
2. Calculate statistical formulas using Six Sigma tools and Minitab.
3. Predict decisions based on the concepts of Six Sigma and Minitab.
4. Demonstrate how to use Minitab by completing assignments and quizzes.
5. Manipulate statistical data sets to provide a given outcome.

Core Competencies:

1. Computer-Based Skills – the student will complete assignments using the Minitab software.
2. Communication Skills—The student will master both written and oral skills in completing and presenting the assigned projects.
3. Interpersonal Skills – the student will interact in class discussions to clarify the key Six Sigma concepts.
4. Problem Solving (Critical Thinking): The student will use conceptual thinking to analyze and make determinations regarding the implementation of Six Sigma.
5. Personal Accountability for Achievement: The student will complete the projects at the time designated by the instructor and present them for class discussion.
6. Competence in Technology Principles
 - a. The student will thoroughly understand Six Sigma concepts to improve efficiency.
 - b. Exposure to and appreciation for industrial experiences such as industrial tours, work-study options, cooperative education, and senior seminars. Students will discuss and review videos of companies implementing Six Sigma.

Tentative Course Requirements:

Grading components are assigned weights as follows:

Textbook Assignment with Minitab	300
Textbook Quizzes	400
Journal Article Review Assignment	50
Research Project	100
Final Exam	150

TOTAL POINTS = 1000

*NOTE: This is NOT set in stone, pending the number of assignments, quizzes, and projects given.

Grade Scale Breakdown:

A=90 - 100%

B=80 - 89%

C=70 - 79%

D=60 - 69%

F=BELOW 60%

Note: 89.999999999999999999 is still a B.

Course Policies:

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory, determined by the timely submitting quizzes, assignments, and exams. No make-ups unless:

1. Organized university trip.

2. Illness or death in the immediate family (mother, father, brother, and sister).
3. Illness of student.

Each will require either a **doctor's statement** or a **signed statement** from the individual in charge of the trip.

A student will lose a letter grade in the course each time s/he is absent or late three times. Any student entering the classroom one minute after the scheduled starting time will be considered late unless accompanied by a valid excuse.

Lecture Notes and Classroom Environment:

The lecture notes will be available online on the Canvas site for the course. Additionally, students are required to take notes during face-to-face classes (if necessary and take place) on supplemental lecture materials, problem-solving, and diagrams that the instructor writes/draws on the classroom board. A student is **NOT allowed** to take photos of notes on the board.

Talking:

While the instructor is talking (in a face-to-face class), it is understood that no one should be talking. Students talking in class prevent other students from hearing the instructor and learning the required material to pass the course. You will earn a zero on your daily quiz grade if you are caught talking. On the second offense, you will be **asked to leave**. This behavior is rude and disruptive, and most students who speak in class typically earn lower grades. It should be noted that students who have been granted permission to talk by the instructor should not be interrupted as well. If a student does not like to listen to the lecture or any personal issue arises, they can leave the classroom gently but are NOT allowed to disturb or distract their classmates. Please respect your classmates who have paid for this course and want to listen to the lecture and learn the content.

Chapter Quizzes and Exams:

Chapter lectures will follow up with online quizzes. Exam content will be taken from lectures, demonstrations, quizzes, reading and writing assignments, laboratory exercises (if any), and any audio-visual materials used, i.e., films, tapes, slides, etc. **Cell phones, laptops, iPads, or other electronic communication equipment besides a calculator are not allowed to be used during the exam.** The first violation will receive a warning, and the second violation will result in their right to take the exam.

Make up quizzes and examinations are the student's responsibility. **No excuses will be accepted after the due date has passed.** The instructor must be notified **before** the scheduled exam. If not, the student forfeits their right to take the exam. However, make-up exams will be on a different set of questions. Quizzes and assignments will not be made up unless the instructor has received a prior acceptable excuse for an absence.

Late Work:

All work not turned in on time will automatically reduce the value to 50% of its total value. **Work not turned in by the next class will NOT be accepted.** Exceptions to this will be as per the University Policy concerning absences from class. The student's responsible for taking the quizzes and submitting assignments by the due date or the date administered them. **The instructor is NOT accountable for reminding students about missed quizzes, assignments, or exams.** If you know a quiz/assignment/exam will be late for a valid reason, inform your instructor to avoid unnecessary penalties.

Format for Assignment Reports:

Each assignment must be written so the reader can quickly examine the contents. Materials that are hard to read or require special handling to get at will not be graded. The cover page must contain the following:

1. Assignment Title and Chapter Number bolded
2. Your Name: Prepared by Joe Student
3. Your University I.D Number
4. Course Name and Number
5. The Date
6. Submitted to Dr. Mohammed Ali in partial fulfillment of the course

Your grade will reflect the quality of the presentation/paper.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones are to be seen and not heard (in a face-to-face class). Please turn off your cell phone during class or turn it into vibrator mode. A ringing cell phone is a distraction and is inappropriate for the classroom. Allowing your cell phone to ring and then answering it is very rude. It is unfair to your classmates who have paid for this course. **Please be considerate and ensure your cell phone is turned off during your classes. Students will be asked to leave for the day if this behavior continues.**

Artificial Intelligence Use Policy

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional research approaches. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering the course learning objectives. For this course, **I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools at any stage of the work process, including brainstorming.** Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler's Honor Code and academic honesty values.

Additional Course Management and Classroom Policies:

1. No retakes of quizzes or exams for "technical difficulties or internet interruptions." Get reliable technology or use the campus resources with Ethernet cabling, NOT Wi-Fi.

2. No excuses to leave the country and miss final exams or final presentations in class. A zero for these and any other assignments will be given.
3. Telephone usage of any kind in the classroom - texting, talking, social media, etc.- is prohibited. You will be asked to leave the classroom, counted as absent for the day, and NOT allowed to make up any assignments, quizzes, etc.
4. Talking during class while the professor is talking, a guest speaker or student presentations will be penalized - No class participation points - up to 25% of the overall score.
5. If a student is more than 5 minutes late without an excuse, it is an absence. Three absences automatically reduce a letter grade in the class.

Course Content

- Minitab Navigation
- Basic Stats
- Six Sigma and lean applications
- DMAIC
- Data collection techniques
- Measurement systems
- Statistics (ANOVA, non-parametric tests, etc.)
- Multivariate Tools
- Regression
- Hypothesis Testing
- Probability
- Process capability
- Hypothesis testing
- FMEA
- Design of experiments
- Waste elimination
- Kaizen
- TOP
- Risk analysis and mitigation
- SPC
- TPM and DFSS
- Final exam

Date of Final Exam: 3rd to 7th August, 2025—The online exam opens at 8 a.m. or sooner and closes at midnight (11:59 p.m.).

Last Date to Withdraw from course(s): Thursday, July 10, 2025

Census Date and Policies: Refer to the respective section below.

Technology Access:

This is an online course and will require reliable technology. Required technology includes:

Hardware:

- Desktop or laptop computer with internet access.
 - Note: if your internet connection is down, you must gain access to avenues such as the UTT computer lab (BEP249 or HPR 134) and a public library to complete and submit your work on time.
- A camera, microphone, and sound speakers.

Software:

- A current operating system (Microsoft or Apple)
- A web browser (Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, Firefox, etc.)
- Access to Blackboard and Patriot mail. Note: Google Chrome does not support JAVA. Please do not use it for Soft Chalk lessons.
- Microsoft Office (Available at no charge to the student at <https://www.utttyler.edu/it/office365/proplus.php>)
- Note: Do NOT use Google Docs for writing assignments
- Also standard plug-ins such as Java, Flash, QuickTime, Adobe Reader, or another FDF reader such as Preview on the Mac.
- Other software, as noted in each module, such as E-Portfolio

Technical Support:

Technology-related problems (e.g., Patriot email, blackboard, access problem to the myUTTyler, etc.) can often be solved by calling the UT Tyler Information Technology Hotline (903) 565-5555 x2 or by emailing them at itsupport@patriots.utttyler.edu. In your email, be sure to include the following:

- The title and number of the course
- The Blackboard page in the question
- A description and message number for any error message that you receive
- What were you doing at the time you got the error message?

Discrimination:

The policy of this department is to make your college experience as pleasant as possible. However, if you feel discriminated against, belittled, or not treated appropriately, please notify the instructor anonymously or in person immediately after class. It is not the intention of any of the faculty in this department to make your college experience unpleasant. Remember, the first step in the process is to inform the instructor so s/he can be aware of the problem and take corrective action. If the problem continues to persist, please inform the chair of the department. The dean can then be notified if the situation continues after a few days. A grievance can then be filed in the Office of Student Services if there has still been no change in the instructor's behavior. It should be noted that filing a grievance is a profound act and should NOT be done just because you received a bad grade on an exam or in the course. Communication is an effective tool to solve problems and is rarely used enough. Most people are not deliberately trying to upset you; they are unaware of your vantage point.

Offensive Language:

Any offensive language will not be tolerated in the classroom, laboratory, or online. How you speak to your friends outside the classroom is your business; however, when you are in the classroom, you must follow the University of Texas rules of conduct. **You will be asked to leave if your language or conduct is offensive.**

Required Activities Scheduled Outside of Regularly Scheduled Class Time (fees, tickets, procedures, and/or forms required):

Read the textbook, review notes, and complete assignments.

Department Website: <http://www.uttyler.edu/cbt/hrd/tech/>

Commencement: TBD

Holidays: None.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>.

Campus Carry

We respect the rights and privacy of students 21 and over duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders must behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler campus, branch campuses, or any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all University community members, including students, faculty, staff, university affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling quitlines and group support. For more information on cessation programs, please visit <http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free>.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the semester's Census Date in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates can exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date ([May 27th](#)) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions, of which students must be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, and approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail, or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or after that from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For this rule, a dropped course is any course dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please get in touch with the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

By Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Tyler at Texas offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and psychological disabilities. Suppose you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment. In that case, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with an Accessibility Case Manager. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.utyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150, or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence Due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

Suppose you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity. In that case, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks before the planned absence date. The instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you need assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor during class's first week. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct: Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give an unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- (i) "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 - copying from another student's test paper;
 - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 - possession during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes." The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been expressly prohibited by the person administering the test;
 - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
 - divulging the contents of an examination for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 - substituting for another person or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution, or computer program;
 - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and other academic work offered for credit;
 - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, to obtain an academic or financial benefit or injure another student academically or financially.
- (ii) "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining another's work and submitting it as one's academic work offered for credit.
- (iii) "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to violate any section of the rules on academic dishonesty.
- (iv) All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™, available on Blackboard.

UT Tyler Resources for Students:

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu, <http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/>
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu, <https://www.uttyler.edu/tutoring/>
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021: This is the open-access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254) <https://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/>

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus. However, the Canvas course's Syllabus link will have the most updated syllabus at any point in the semester.