Capstone Applications Course

Course Format:

Three instructors will co-teach the course, each lecturing for (1/3) of the faculty-time. The faculty will alternate presentations, with each faculty member presenting during a typical week. Each instructor will present a serious statistical application, including the context of the scientific problem, description of the data, and results of an applied analysis. Instructors will introduce novel models/methods as needed.

Students are expected to attend all lectures. Each student will be assigned (this may include volunteering) to a project with one of the instructors within the first two weeks of the semester. Students attached to a particular faculty member will give a (group) oral presentation and turn in a written report at the half-way point of the semester. Students will give an individual presentation and turn in an individual written report at the end of the semester. The grade for the course will be a letter grade.

The time-line for the course with four instructors is to be something like:

Week 1: Faculty presentations – overview of problems.
Weeks 2 - 5: Faculty presentations, problem and analysis.
Week 6: Student presentations – focus on data set and problem.
Weeks 7-8: Faculty presentations, problem and analysis.
Week 9: Student presentations – problem and analysis.
Weeks 10-12: Faculty presentations – problem and analysis
Weeks 13-14: Student presentations – final report.

Notes: Students would be allowed to substitute a different data set/problem for one provided by an instructor. In particular, those who are already working on a project or serving as an RA might wish to make a substitution.

If scheduling permits, the student presentations will take place in a set of seminar presentations, open to the entire department, or at a poster session.