

MATH 214

INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS

Nicholls State University, Summer 2004

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Brian Heck

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Office Hours: after class and by appointment

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Course Information

Prerequisite: Math 101 (with a C or better).

Text: Elementary Statistics: A Step by Step Approach (5th ed.)
by Allan Bluman (McGraw-Hill)

Calculator: You will need to have at least a scientific calculator.

Course Description (catalog)

Organizing data, averages and variations, stem-and-leaf and box plots and other graphical representations of data, conducting experiments, elementary probability theory, distributions, estimations, hypothesis testing, regression and correlation.

Grading Policy

We will have three exams, including the final. Additionally, we will have random unannounced quizzes to make sure basic skills are being mastered. I intend to have many of these, and I'll drop the lowest few. How many I drop depends on how many we have. The exams will each be worth 100 points as will the quiz grade. At the conclusion of the semester, you will be assigned a letter grade based on the usual 10% scale (A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, etc).

Attendance

I will not include attendance as part of your course grade. I am not your mother or your parole officer, and this is not high school. I do, however, expect you to attend class everyday. You are responsible for all material covered in class.

*****Intersession Warning: Each class day is equivalent to a week of classes from a normal semester. Every day is therefore very important. *****

Course Objectives

A student who successfully completes this course should be able to apply basic statistics in a variety of fields.

Instructor Expectations

Come to class prepared to learn. In order to understand what we are doing in class, it will be necessary for you to do problems outside of class, and it would be beneficial to you to read the text prior to our covering the material in class. I also expect you to take responsibility for your achievement (or lack thereof) in this class. I am more than happy to help you succeed, but it will take effort on your part as well. I firmly believe that if you (1) come to class and pay attention, (2) do your homework, and (3) ask questions when you get confused, you will do very well in this course.

Closing Remarks

It is assumed that you are attending this university because you have a desire for higher learning. It is therefore expected that you will pay attention, be respectful of your instructor and fellow students, and follow the Code of Student Conduct. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. If you are caught cheating, you will fail this course. Similarly, if you are a disruptive presence in the classroom, you will be dropped from the class. I look forward to the next two and a half weeks, and I hope you find it as enjoyable as I will.

Important Dates

Test #1 - Monday, May 17, 2004

'W' Day - Friday, May 21, 2004

Test #2 - Monday, May 24, 2004

Test #3 - Tuesday, June 1, 2004