Math 113-02 Statistical Methods Fall 2008

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Office hours:
Tuesday 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Thursday 1:00 – 3:00 PM


Outline: We will cover most of the first twelve chapters of the textbook. The first portion of the course will be devoted to methods of obtaining and organizing data and basic exploratory data analysis. After a segment on probability, the remainder of the course will cover statistical inference and various associated statistical tools.

Homework: You will have eleven problem sets to work on. Usually you will receive an assignment on a Friday and your work will be due at the beginning of class on the following Friday.

Labs: You will have thirteen computer lab assignments to complete. The work-sheets, which I will distribute at the beginning of the Tuesday lab period, are to be filled in while you are working at the computer. Completed reports are due on the Wednesday following the lab, by 4:30 PM.

Explorations: You will have four exploratory assignments. These are intended to give you experience tackling problems that are more involved and open-ended than those appearing on the weekly problem sets. Generally, solutions will be due two weeks after the assignment is distributed.

Project: Near the end of the course, you will conduct a small-scale research study in which you will collect and analyze data. Your report will be due on Wednesday, December 3rd.

Lateness: The Math Department policy is not to accept late assignments. Please see me about unusual circumstances.
Exams: There will be two 75 minute midterms, one during the week of October 6th and one during the week of November 17th. The final exam will take place on December 18th from 2:00-4:00 PM.

Honor code: When working on the homework, lab reports, explorations, and project, you are encouraged to collaborate with others. You are also free to consult your textbook or other sources. However, you are required to write up, on your own, any work you turn in, except possibly for the data obtained in the project. If I have concerns about whether you are following this policy on the homework, lab reports, or explorations, I will discuss them with you. If the problem persists, I will issue a warning and explain what will be considered a violation of the honor code from that time forward. No warning will be issued for a violation on the project.

You will be expected to work on the tests by yourself. Discussion of the test with anyone other than myself will be considered a violation of the honor code. All tests are closed book. By this I mean that you will not be allowed to consult any source. Doing so will be considered a violation of the honor code. No warning will be issued for a violation of the honor code on a test. You will be allowed the use of a non-graphing calculator on the tests.

Grading: Each midterm is worth 60 points, and the final is worth 100 points. The homework, the lab reports, and the project will each be worth 30 points. The four explorations will be worth a total of 20 points. Thus you can earn up to 330 points in the class. At the end of the semester I will assign you a grade based on the total number of points you have accumulated. In exceptional cases, I may raise your grade based on other information I have about your work in this class. Please note that I will not be grading on a curve. In other words, there is not a predetermined number of A’s, B’s, C’s, D’s, and F’s that I am planning to give.

Help: In addition to myself and your classmates, you may be able to obtain help from upperclass students who will provide “walk-in-tutoring” in the evenings. Also, one-on-one tutoring is available through Student Academic Services.

Attendance: I cannot emphasize enough the importance of attending class. Not only is there a great deal to be gained by participating in the discussion and exchange of ideas that will occur, but also there may be times I cover material in class which you will be responsible for knowing but will have a difficult time finding elsewhere.