

STATISTICAL METHODS IN PRACTICE
MATH/STAT 3379 – Spring 2018

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Office Hours: MWF 11am – 1pm, 2-3pm

Class meeting time and place: MWF 9-10, 10-11 1-2, 3-4:20

Text and Materials: Introductory Statistics, 10th Ed, by Dr. Neil A. Weiss* (Our online homework venue has an electronic version of the textbook)

Course Requirements:

a. Cooperative Learning

- The first week students will select a partner to work with for the semester.
 - i. Online documents will be worked on in pairs but graded individually
 - ii. Paper documents (Labs/paper quizzes) will have a single paper turned in for the pair
 - iii. Tests will be worked individually

b. Quizzes:

- There will be a quiz the last day of each week we do not have a test scheduled
- Quizzes will be worked in pairs if both partners are available.
- The quiz may be given in class or it may be take-home. Both hard-copy and Blackboard formats will be used.
- Any work that is done on Blackboard can be worked with your partner but must be turned in individually for a grade to be recorded.
- If you miss a quiz you can't make it up.
- One or more quiz grades will be dropped for all students at the end of the semester. This is to minimize the impact of one bad day or absence having a great impact on the grade.

c. Online Homework:

- The online homework is called MyStatLab. You register through blackboard under the "MyStatLab link" on the left side of the screen and use the code: Use the code given in class to get access to the correct MyStatLab course
- Online homework should be worked with your partner, but each student will be graded based on the individual grade that is generated in MyStatLab. ***Please stay on top of this and feel free to work ahead.***
- If you are struggling with a problem and you and your partner think that it is a computer issue, take a screen shot and send it to me.

d. SPSS Labs:

- There will be periodic SPSS labs throughout the semester.
- All lab assignments are to be done with your partner and they are expected to be done *computationally* using the SPSS software and only one copy of the completed lab will be turned in for each pair of students.
- SPSS can be found on all computers on campus within the computer labs.
- A student copy of SPSS can be rented from e-academy at www.onthehub.com/spss/.
- Late lab assignments will **not** be accepted.

e. Tests:

- Tests must be taken individually not in pairs.
- *You must take the exam, but if your final exam grade is higher than your lowest regular test grade, I will replace the lowest test grade with what you make on the exam.*
- **Your final exam is scheduled during the week of May 7-11.**
- You need to bring a valid picture ID to each test or exam.
- If you miss test the grade on your final exam will be used to replace it.

- A portion of the exams may test your ability to apply and interpret SPSS to a data set.
- Exams will only be made up if the university excuses the absence and thus you are able to provide written verification.

Course Calendar:

Tentative Course Calendar

Exam 1	Chapter 1 - 3	The week of 2/12 – 2/16
Exam 2	Chapter 4 - 6	The week of 3/5 – 3/9
Exam 3	Chapter 7 - 10	The week of 4/23 – 4/27
Comprehensive Final Exam	Chapters 1-10 & 12	The week of 5/7 – 5/11

Grading Policy:

Online Homework	Quiz	Labs	Exam Average	Final Exam
10%	10%	10%	50%	20%

Attendance Policy:

- Catching up due to an absence is your responsibility.
- Since most of the work done in this class will be with a partner, it is imperative that you exchange contact information with you partner the first week of class.
- Attendance will be taken daily.

Calculators:

- A **graphing** calculator (such as a TI-83, or equivalent) is **required** for this class. Homework, quizzes, and exams will be written as if you are in possession of one when completely them.
- Calculators are allowed in this course, yet I will be resetting all calculator memories on the day of the exam. Hiding information such as formulas within your calculator will be considered cheating on an exam.
- You may not share calculators on Exams or quizzes.
- Please come to class prepared especially if there is a quiz or Exam. Do not assume I have an extra calculator.
- You may not use your cell phone or other electronic device as a calculator.

Miscellaneous Information:

- a. Cheating is a most serious offense - I will not hesitate to press for the most severe consequence allowed by the University. **YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE an “F” FOR THE CLASS.**
- b. No work, no credit, therefore, show all work. My rule of thumb is, if I cannot do it in my head, it is likely neither could or did you.
- c. Your cell phone needs to be turned off or on silent, not vibrate.
- d. Please check your campus email regularly or forward your campus email to an email that you check regularly.
- e. Be respectful of the student around you at all times.
- f. Make sure you have read the syllabus carefully because you are responsible for what lies within it.

Course Description: This course covers the fundamentals of statistical concepts and will guide the student through basic statistical procedures to permit critical insight into the science of collecting, classifying, presenting, and interpreting information from data. The three primary topics are covered. The first topic is descriptive statistics (graphic presentation of data, histograms, plots, charts, measures of central tendency, dispersion, and position, bivariate data analysis, linear correlation and regression analysis). The second topic is probability concepts and rules for calculating probabilities of compound events. The probability coverage also includes the more commonly occurring probability distributions such as the binomial and normal distributions. Finally, the third area of coverage is that of inferential statistics, including inferences involving one and two populations. Students are also introduced to SPSS software.

Recording Devices: Recording devices, such as cameras, audio recorders, or video recorders may not be used without prior approval of the instructor.

- **Electronic Devices:** The use by students of any device that is performing the functions of a telephone, text messages, or pager during class-time is prohibited. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situation uses of devices must be approved by the instructor in advance. Any use of a telephone, text messages, pager, PDA, or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test, or if present should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen, heard, or used by a student. The visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for the test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating.
- **Academic Dishonesty:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.
- **Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from using tobacco products in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.
- **Visitors in the Classroom:** Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.
- **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

- **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>