Math 201, Introductory Statistics

Instructor Information

Eric Schulz, 509-527-4281, eric@wwcc.edu, Office #288A located in the Academic Support Center on the 2nd floor of the Main Building on WWCC's Walla Walla campus. My office hours are 10:30 to 11:30 daily. I am also available in the afternoons on an appointment basis; please contact me via email or phone to arrange an appointment if you are unable to come by during posted office hours. I normally respond to email promptly during the day but rarely in the evenings and on weekends. If you send an email in the evenings or weekends I will reply as soon as I can on the following work day.

Course Description

A study of both descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics for the course include: data presentation, and analysis, measures of central tendency and dispersion, sampling distributions, parameter estimation/confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, and linear regression. Prerequisite: Grade of "C-" or higher in MATH 95 or permission of the Mathematics Department.

All Math courses offered at WWCC: Course Flowchart

Required Materials

- The textbook for the course is The Basic Practice of Statistics, 3rd edition, by David S. Moore, W.H. Freeman.
- ESTAT Pack. The ESTAT Pack is bundled with a new textbook and available separately if you purchased a used textbook. The ESTAT Pack contains 4 CDs filled with tutorials for the course material and iSolve Access Code (Homework Advantage Center access code) that is required for online homework submission (see information below).
- A scientific calculator capable of two variable statistics calculations.

Attendance

Attendance at every class session is expected. I understand absences are sometimes unavoidable and will work with students when such occasions arise. In the event of an absence occurring on the date of a scheduled exam or quiz, prior arrangements must be made in order to schedule another time to write the exam.

Cell Phones/PDAs

Our classroom is a No Cell Phone/PDA environment. Cell phones are to be silenced before class begins and put away. Cell phones/PDAs are not to be accessed for any reason during classtime.

Text messaging is not allowed during class. Using a cell phone as a calculator is not acceptable - you should have a scientific calculator for use in the course.

Homework Assignments: Textbook Problems and the Homework Advantage Center
Problems from the textbook will be assigned in class, posted on the course Quarter Schedule, and discussed regularly. Complete solutions for the assigned textbook problems will be available on the Quarter Schedule (each assigned problem is a hyperlink that when clicked on displays the solution for the problem). The purpose of the textbook assigned homework problems is to provide an opportunity for students to learn and master the course content and thereby increase the probability of successfully completing the course. If homework is not done regularly and diligently, the probability of completing the course successfully will be very small.

The work done on completing the textbook assignments will not be turned in to, nor graded by, the instructor of the course. Understanding and mastery of assigned homework will be measured using the online iSolve/Homework Advantage Center (HAC) website supported by the publisher of our textbook. The chapter assignments to be completed in HAC are composed of the same types problems that are assigned in the textbook (or a subset thereof). It is highly recommended the students complete the textbook assignment before logging in to HAC to complete the online assignment for a grade - this will minimize the time required to be sitting in front of a computer. If the textbook problems have been completed and understood before logging in to HAC, then answering the online questions and submitting them for a grade should not take a long time.

The chapter assignments in HAC can be completed and submitted for a grade at most TWICE. A passing grade on a homework assignment is any score that is greater than or equal to approximately 70% (passing percentage varies slightly from assignment to assignment depending on the number of problems assigned). Once an assignment has been submitted for grading in HAC, the HAC software will provide comments on incorrect results so that students can then learn from their mistakes and try the assignment a second time in the event a passing grade was not earned. The problems on the second attempt will be very similar in nature, but not identical, to the first set of problems.

If a student does not have time to complete an assignment after logging in to HAC, it is possible to Quit and Save current work. Work on the assignment can be continued at a later time by logging back into the HAC and picking up where you left off.

The online HAC assignments can be completed any time up to 9:00 pm on the day the assignment is listed as being due on the class Quarter Schedule (where you will also find convenient links to HAC). DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!! There are no exceptions to the listed due dates. The online assignment due dates in HAC have been set to allow students plenty of time to complete the assignment after the material is covered in the course.

CAUTION: Times that appear in the Homework Advantage Center are given in Central Standard Time. If a time of 12:00 AM is visible in the Homework Advantage Center, it would be equivalent to 10:00 PM in Pacific Day Light time and 9:00 PM in Pacific Standard time. Keep in mind that homework assignments are due by 9:00 PM Pacific Standard time!

**ESTAT Pack**

The publisher has developed a 4 CD supplement for our text called "ESTAT". The ESTAT CD's include a very rich set of tutorial materials covering the content of the course (StatTutor)- it should be of benefit to students who would like extra input beyond reading the text and attending class.

The Quarter Schedule lists the ESTAT lessons that correspond with the chapter material from the textbook. The class homepage has a link to a document giving a complete listing of the ESTAT lessons by disk number.

**Web Resources**
The course website can be reached from a link at http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/. A dynamic Quarter Schedule is posted on the course website - check the quarter schedule frequently for changes, assigned homework problems, HAC due dates, exam dates, practice exams, exam keys, classnotes, etc. Additional information will be posted on the web as the quarter develops - check the quarter schedule for the course regularly as the content on the page will change frequently.

We will use online statistical software called CrunchIt! provided by the textbook publisher. CrunchIt! is a web-based spreadsheet like application that supports a broad range of statistical tools. Data sets from the text examples and problems are readily available in CrunchIt! to save data entry time. Links to CrunchIt! are found on the class homepage, the Quarter Schedule, and the Homework Advantage Center login page.

Exams

There will be four one-hour exams and a comprehensive final exam. See the quarter schedule for dates. If a student is not able to be in class on the day an exam is scheduled and has notified the instructor before the exam date, an alternate time will be scheduled for the student to take the exam (preferably before the date scheduled for the exam).

Students will be provided with a copy of the "TABLES AND FORMULAS FOR MOORE" formula/table salmon colored insert found in the course text on every exam. If you purchased a used text and do not have the insert, you can download a 6 page pdf version of the insert using the above link. As the quarter progresses make it a practice to become familiar with the material included on the insert. Students will be expected to use their scientific calculators competently on exams to perform necessary statistical computations.

Grades

HAC assignments, one-hour exams, the final exam, and additional assigned activities will be the assessment tools used in the course. The final HAC homework point total will be scaled to 200 points, the four one-hour exams are weighted to 100 points each, the final exam is weighted to 150 points, and points for other assigned activities will be determined when the assignment is made.

Final grades are simply a function of the percentage of possible points earned:

Let $p$ be the percent of the possible course points earned by a student, the course grade is then given in the following table:

- $93\% \leq p \leq 100\% \rightarrow A$
- $90\% \leq p < 93\% \rightarrow A-$
- $87\% \leq p < 90\% \rightarrow B+$
- $83\% \leq p < 87\% \rightarrow B$
- $80\% \leq p < 83\% \rightarrow B-$
- $77\% \leq p < 80\% \rightarrow C+$
- $73\% \leq p < 77\% \rightarrow C$
- $70\% \leq p < 73\% \rightarrow C-$
- $67\% \leq p < 70\% \rightarrow D+$
- $60\% \leq p < 67\% \rightarrow D$
- $0\% \leq p < 60\% \rightarrow F$