Mathematics. The science of patterns.

Math 201, Introductory Statistics

Instructor Information
Eric Schulz, 509-527-4281, Office #288A located in the Math Lab 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 available some afternoons on an appointment basis - please contact me via email or phone to arrange an appointment if you are unable to come by during my normal 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.

Required Materials

StatsPortal: An access code for the StatsPortal website is bundled with a new textbook purchased from the WWCC Bookstore (for no additional cost). The StatsPortal website contains a complete eBook (electronic copy of the textbook), StatTutor video tutorials, chapter summary podcasts, CrunchIt! online statistical software, to name a few of the main resources. All quizzes and homework assignments will be turned in for credit online using the StatsPortal website. There is a link to the StatsPortal login page on the course website at http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/math201/.

Calculator: A scientific calculator capable of two variable statistics calculations.

For Fall 2006 Only: The publisher of our textbook, W.H. Freeman, is providing students full access to StatsPortal for no charge! To create your StatsPortal account follow these steps:
1) Click the StatsPortal link on the Math 201 class page (http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/math201/)
2) Click on the "Register for an account" link
3) Fill in your name and email address. You can use your WWCC Student email address or any other email address that you would like - just be sure to use one that you check regularly. The Course PIN is 35472042.
4) Click Submit. Wait a few minutes and then check your email. You will be sent a temporary password for StatsPortal. You will be asked to change your password the first time you log in to StatsPortal.
5) Return to the StatsPortal login page and enter your email address for your Username and the temporary password that was sent to you. Change your password as requested. Click on the Math 201: Introduction to Statistics link to enter the site.

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, prior arrangements must be made in order to schedule another time to write the exam.
Cell Phones, PDA's, and Computer use during class

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 class time. Text messaging is not allowed during class. Using a cell phone/PDA as a calculator is not acceptable - you should have a scientific calculator for use in the course. Develop the habit of silencing your phone when entering the classroom - I'm confident that everyone can manage to go 50 minutes without accessing their cell phone!

Our classroom is equipped with computers. We will use the computer resources at various times throughout the course for course activities. Other use of the computers is not to occur during class - no checking email, no instant message, no web browsing, no gaming, and no working on online homework assignments during class time.

Textbook Reading

Each assigned chapter of our textbook should be read completely. The chapters of many algebra textbooks are not particularly well suited to be read as they are usually filled with example problems and their step-by-step solutions which is excellent for referencing but not for reading. The chapters of our statistics textbook are meant to be read, highlighted, summarized, etc., before starting to work on the assigned Exercises. Practice problems, labeled "Apply Your Knowledge (AYK)", are found throughout the chapter and are useful for practicing material discussed in the reading material preceding the "AYK" problems.

The eBook version of the textbook has tools available which can be used to highlight the electronic text and insert notes into the chapter material. Click on the reddish "eBook Tools" link in the right margin when reading eBook chapter material and you'll be able to add notes and highlight the electronic text.

There are many new terms to be learned in statistics that should be memorized - use the definitions in the chapter together with the chapter summaries to learn the new vocabulary terms. Chapter reading is assigned on the course schedule as well as in StatsPortal.

Check Your Skills Quizzes and Chapter Homework Assignments

A 5 point "Check Your Skills Quiz" is assigned for every chapter that we study and is to be complete online in StatsPortal after you have read and studied the material in the chapter and before you start working on the Exercises assigned for the chapter. The online quiz questions are multiple choice and are identical to the "Check Your Skills" questions that precede the end of chapter Exercises in the textbook. Due dates for these quizzes are posted on the course schedule as well as in the assignment link in StatsPortal.

Each StatsPortal Check Your Skills Quiz can be taken only once. The quizzes are not available to be taken after the posted due date has passed.

Chapter Homework Assignments

Problems from the textbook will be assigned and posted on the course schedule and discussed regularly. The problem numbers assigned are the same for the printed textbook and the online eBook. Each chapter homework assignment is worth 10 points and is to be completed for credit in StatsPortal - the online chapter homework assignments are listed in the Assignments section of StatsPortal. The problems in the online
homework assignment are based on the chapter exercise problems but at times ask slightly different questions than the textbook problems - this is to facilitate software grading of your answers. If you have worked on and understand the textbook problems, then answering the homework questions in the online StatsPortal chapter homework assignment should not be too difficult. However, if you do not work through the textbook exercises assigned, then you should plan on spending a significant amount more time at a computer working on the online homework assignment.

The due dates for the online homework assignments are set so that there is plenty of time to read the chapter material, work through the Check Your Skills quiz, work through textbook problems, ask questions, and then complete the online homework assignment before it is required to be completed even taking into account work schedules and other activities. I would expect that many students complete the online assignments far before the due dates - it should be an exception to be completing the online work "just" before it is due. As an example, consider the proposed schedule for Chapter 1 - you should begin reading the chapter on Monday the 18th, we will be discussing the material on the 19th and 20th in class, the Check Your Skills Quiz is by the end of the 21st, and the online homework is due by the end of the 25th - a full week after work on chapter 1 started.

Each StatsPortal chapter homework assignment can be taken at most twice. If the grade earned on the first submission of a chapter homework assignment is lower than desired, then you can choose to complete the homework assignment a second time. The grade earned the second time will replace the grade earned the first time (regardless as to whether it is higher or lower). The homework assignments are not available to be taken after the posted due date has passed.

DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!! THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE POSTED DUE DATES FOR QUIZZES AND HOMEWORK! The due dates for online activities have been set to allow students plenty of time to complete the tasks. Do not, I repeat, do not wait to complete an online quiz or homework assignment until just before it is due. If you experience technical problems (lost internet connection, frozen computer, etc) the due date will not be modified and/or postponed. Plan ahead to complete the online assignments without pushing the limits of the due date/time.

**StatsPortal Stats Resources**

The course website can be reached from a link at http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/ . A dynamic [Course Schedule](http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/) is posted on the course website - check the schedule frequently for changes, assigned textbook problems, online quiz & homework due dates, exam dates, practice exams, exam keys, etc. Additional information will be posted on the web as the quarter develops - check the schedule for the course regularly as the content on the page will change frequently.

Tutorial videos, called "StatTutor" resources in StatsPortal, for material throughout the text are available in the Stats Resources in StatsPortal. The eBook contains links to the StatTutor tutorials as well.

[Study Guides](http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/math201/html/a672m201syl.html) for each chapter are available in StatsPortal that contain chapter overviews, formulas, and detailed solutions for select exercises.

Chapter summaries are available in StatsPortal as [Podcasts](http://math.wwcc.edu/eric/math201/html/a672m201syl.html).

Statistical web-based software called "CrunchIt!" is accessible in StatsPortal. Datasets found in the textbook are also online in a form useful for CrunchIt! and Excel.

**Exams**

There will be three one-hour exams and a comprehensive final exam that are paper and pencil exams (not taken "online"). These exams are all written by the instructor to test both the skill mastery and conceptual understand of the material - the exams do not contain multiple choice style questions nor fill in the blank questions. Exam dates will be posted in the Course Schedule. 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).

Grades
Online quizzes (~19 quizzes, 5 points each), online homework (~20 homework assignments, 10 points each), one-hour paper and pencil exams (3 exams, 100 points each), the comprehensive final exam (150 points), and/or additional assigned activities will be the assessment tools used in the course. Final grades are simply a function of the percentage of possible points earned:

\[
\frac{\text{Exam1} + \text{Exam2} + \text{Exam3} + \text{FinalExam} + \text{QuizTotal} + \text{HomeworkTotal}}{\text{PointsPossible}}
\]

Your current grade status can be checked in StatsPortal - all quiz and homework grades will be in StatsPortal and I'll upload exam scores. Let \( p \) be the percent of the possible course points earned by a student, the course grade is then given in the following table:

\[
\begin{align*}
93\% & \leq p < 100\% & \rightarrow & A \\
90\% & \leq p < 93\% & \rightarrow & A- \\
87\% & \leq p < 90\% & \rightarrow & B+ \\
83\% & \leq p < 87\% & \rightarrow & B \\
80\% & \leq p < 83\% & \rightarrow & B- \\
77\% & \leq p < 80\% & \rightarrow & C+ \\
73\% & \leq p < 77\% & \rightarrow & C \\
70\% & \leq p < 73\% & \rightarrow & C- \\
67\% & \leq p < 70\% & \rightarrow & D+ \\
60\% & \leq p < 67\% & \rightarrow & D \\
0\% & \leq p < 60\% & \rightarrow & F
\end{align*}
\]