

MATH 109: Elementary Probability and Statistics

Fall 2012

Professor: Dr. Rob Erhardt

Office: 342 Manchester Hall

Office Hours: Tues 3-4, Wed 3-4, Fri 11-12

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1. **Location and Time:**

Section A: 1:00-1:50 MTWF, Manchester 016

Section B: 2:00-2:50 MTWF, Manchester 016

2. **Book:** Statistics (4th ed.) by Freedman, Pisani, and Purves

3. **Outline:** Statistics has the power to make you better in your chosen field. Conversely, you will be limited if you do not understand statistics. It is my goal to help guide you through introductory topics in statistics so you may succeed in whatever discipline you love. We will cover: designs of experiments; numerical and graphical summaries; the normal distribution; probability; correlation and regression; sampling; hypothesis testing; confidence intervals; and, along the way, some shocking historical misuses of statistics.

4. **Exams:** There will be a total of three in-class midterm exams on 9/24, 10/17, 11/13, and one final exam on December 14 at 9:00AM. In general make-up exams are not given, but for exceptional circumstances, contact me *before* the exam date.

5. **Assignments:** We will generally have two short weekly assignments, due in class on Tuesday and Friday. A few of these will be given as in class quizzes (announced in advance, and counted the same). Assignments must be neat, stapled, entirely your own work, and on time. The lowest grade is dropped, so there's no need to inform me if you need to miss one. If you need to miss class, place HW in my mailbox (in Manchester 131) by the start of class, otherwise it will be considered late and not be accepted.

6. **Grading:** Assignments and quizzes count 16%, each midterm counts 18%, and the final exam counts 30%. Attendance and participation are used to elevate borderline grades. Grades follow the standard scale, with cutoffs: 93 A, 90 A-, 87 B+, 83 B, 80 B-, 77 C+, 73 C, 70 C-, 67 D+, 63 D, 60 D-, and below 60 is F. Modest curving of grades *may* be used, but only at the end of the semester.

7. **Honesty and Courtesy:** Academic dishonesty of any sort will not be tolerated, and could result in an immediate grade of F. Refer to <http://services.studentlife.wfu.edu/judicial-affairs/honor/>. Phones, laptops, and other electronic devices are distractions when used in class. Please don't use them. I challenge you to set aside all electronic devices and focus 100% during class.

8. **Getting Help:** Come to my office hours, visit the Math Center in Manchester 354, contact the TA, or e-mail me and set up an appointment. Please contact the Learning Assistance Center (758-5929) within the first two weeks of class if you require accommodations for taking this course due to a disability.