

AP Statistics

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Course Description:

AP Statistics is the high school equivalent of an introductory college statistics course. Although mathematical understanding is important, many calculations will be done using statistical software. Students will most often use a graphing calculator to obtain the statistics required but then infer the conclusions. Thus statistical communication skills are highly emphasized.

Course Objectives:

Students will obtain the skills, knowledge, and habits of the mind such that they can produce convincing oral and written statistical arguments which use appropriate terminology in a variety of applied settings; use appropriate technology in solving statistical problems; become critical consumers of published statistical results by heightening their awareness of ways in which statistics can be improperly used to mislead, confuse, or distort the truth; and finally develop essential techniques for producing data (surveys, experiments, observational studies, simulations), analyzing data (graphical and numerical), modeling data (probability, random variables, sampling distributions), and drawing conclusions from data (confidence intervals and significance tests).

Course Requirements:

- Good penmanship
- Reading and Writing skills
- Graphing calculators required (TI-83 or TI-84 recommended)
- Math 3 Honors or AP Calculus passed with B average or better
- Materials needed: file folder, index cards, & correcting utensil

Course Evaluation:

- Assignments: Homework will be inspected regularly. An online correction key will be available for students to correct their assignments before inspection. Each assignment is scored by the student with 2 scores at the top of the paper before they come to class: first, the raw score; and second, the decimal score to 3 places right of the decimal. Homework turned in “on-time” in class will receive a bonus point. Assignments turned in the following class period will receive the score out of 10, but any **late work after that will receive, at most, a score out of 5 points**. Showing work or justifying is essential to these assignments. If an assignment lacks work, justification, or the appropriate scores; it will be stamped incomplete and not scored until resubmitted with the missing work, justification, or score. The AP Test graders will expect to see statistical thought organized and written on paper; they need to see your thought process and so do I.
- Notebook: Each student will be expected to keep this notebook. It will be checked regularly on test days. Points will be given for the following:
 - Learning Cards: Card used to summarize major ideas in the units
 - Class Examples: These accompany class discussions and are taken regularly in class. If class is missed, a student may copy notes from notes on line or from a friend.
 - FRAPPY’s: Each chapter we will do at least two AP Free Response Questions in class.
 - Activities: These occur regularly during class. They can be difficult to make up so sometimes students will simply need to get the data from fellow classmates to complete a missed activity and record it in the notebook. There will also be a few activities that will not be recorded in the notebook but students will receive participation points for completing them.
- Quizzes: Daily quizzes will be brief at the beginning of class and test prior topics. Every written assignment has an accompanying reading assignment so daily quizzes can contain questions from the

associated reading. A random device will be used to determine whether a quiz score will be recorded or dropped.

- **Tests:** Two types of tests will be given: memorization and content. There are two memorization tests per term and at least 2 content tests per term. Students will have one opportunity to take each test within a week of the date it was given in class. There are **NO RETAKES**. All content tests **are comprehensive**. They will be formatted similar to AP tests with 20 multiple choice and 3 free response questions. There are two safety nets in place: stage two tests & helping in math lab. The class period following a content test, a stage two test will be given where students will work in small groups. Only students who have taken the stage one test at this time will be allowed to take the stage two test. The stage two test adds points to the original test score. Students who help in the math lab each term for one hour will have one test score dropped in that term. Those helping in the math lab are expected to be courteous, productive, and helpful to those they assist for one full hour, otherwise, no test will be dropped.

Course Grade:

Students' grades will be based on

30% Assignments
10% Notebook & Activities
10% Quizzes
50% Tests

The following grading scale will be used:

A	93-100%	A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%	B	83-86%
B	83-86%	B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%	C	73-76%
C	73-76%	C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%	D	63-66%
D	63-66%	D-	60-62%

Technology:

Graphing calculators will be used and emphasized in this course as well as statistical software called Minitab (only available in school computer labs). These tools will often do much of the mathematics involved in statistics; however, these tools cannot think for you. The numbers mean absolutely nothing without your interpretation of them. You must learn to use them effectively and efficiently to help you solve statistical problems.

Cell Phones are not to be used as calculators nor should they be used during class time. It is expected that cell phones be turned off during class as they tend to disrupt the learning environment.

Teacher Availability:

I am always at school from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. I am available to assist my students during these times and often stay later. Students can also contact me by email if unable to come in for assistance, but they should not have unreasonable expectations for my returning the email.

Website:

This site is designed to be a tool for students and parents. Very useful information can be found on my website including: calendars with daily assignments, assignment keys, etc. I recommend students become acquainted with it. It also has videos of the examples and notes from class for those who miss class. The following codes will be necessary to access some items on the website:

Google Classroom:

My AP: