

Letter to Participants:

Greetings! Taking statistics will forever change the way your students look at the world. So, welcome to teaching one of the most important courses a school can offer its students, and welcome to a fun-filled week of learning. Look forward to working hard, thinking in new ways, and sharing teaching ideas.

When you come, be sure to bring along your TI-84 or TI-Nspire calculator, together with a notebook and writing tools. If you do not have a calculator, we can supply a “loaner” for the week, but having your own will make it possible to take files back home with you at the end of the Institute. TI also has an Nspire iPad app, so that may be an option as well. In addition, if you have a laptop that you can bring, that will prove helpful as we explore on-line resources, and you may use it instead of (or in addition to) your calculator for computational work.

If you would like to do so, please plan to share with the group a short (5 or 10 minutes) presentation of one of your “best practices.” This could be a part of a favorite statistics lesson or a teaching tip applicable to other courses as well. However, since we will not be able to duplicate materials on site, please bring along any handouts you need for this presentation. And be sure to leave some empty space in your luggage for goodies to take home at the end of the week!

The Institute assumes no prior experience teaching statistics, so no special preparation is necessary before arriving. However, if you have the textbook that your school uses you might want to become familiar with its organization. In addition, if you are bringing your own calculator, the more familiar you are with its basic operation, the fewer “new” things you will have to think about during the week.

While much of our time will be directed toward learning and understanding the statistical content of the AP course, we will also discuss teaching strategies, assignments, grading the exams, and anything else the group brings up. Of course technology will be used every day—some for working problems, but even more for developing new ways to help students understand difficult concepts.

I look forward to meeting you in June. If you have questions between now and then, feel free to contact me by email at

l.godbolt@comap.com

Cheers,
Landy