MATH 203: Introductory Statistics
Section 1
Spring 2010

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Mailbox: STH 4124
Office Hours: MTWRF 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
or by appointment or capture

Class Meetings
MWF 10:20 AM to 11:15 AM in STH 1102

Course Web Site
We will be using Blackboard® for the course homepage. Class notes, assignments, and announcements will be posted there (some announcements will also be sent to your WKU e-mail). Students should obtain notes and assignments from this site prior to class each day. Go to http://ecourses.wku.edu and log in (using your WKU email username and password); then look for “Statistics” among your courses. Information about Blackboard® and other campus computing resources can be found at http://www.wku.edu/infotech.

Description
Prerequisite: MATH 116 or MATH 118. Introduction to elementary probability theory. The analysis of data by means of frequency distributions and the statistics which describe them. The binomial and normal probability distributions. Statistical inference. Emphasis is on applied real world problems. Not accepted for credit toward a mathematics major or minor, but it does satisfy General Education Requirement D-2

Optional Textbook

Material to be Covered
We will cover selected topics from the first 24 chapters of the optional textbook. We will not necessarily cover topics in the order in which they are presented in the text.

Technology
• Each student will need a graphing calculator for use in class and for assignments. TI-83 Plus, TI-84, and TI-89 are preferred, and instruction for these models will be given. Cell phone calculators are not permitted for use on exams!
• We will also use StatCrunch, an online statistical data analysis package. A 6-month license can be purchased for $12. More details about StatCrunch will be provided.

Academic Dishonesty
“Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal.” Although students may help each other on homework assignments, individual work is required on exams and projects.

Cell Phones
Cell phones should be turned off or set to silent during class. A cell phone ringing during class is considered disruptive behavior, and punitive action may be taken against students who fail to comply with this request. Cell phones should also remain closed during class. If you are seen using your phone during class (for text messaging or otherwise), you will be asked to leave for the remainder of the class period.

Student Disability Services
In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in DUC A-200 of the Student Success Center in Downing University Center. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.
Attendance
Attendance will be recorded each day, and regular attendance is expected. Attendance is used to help determine “borderline grades” at the end of the semester. The WKU University Attendance Policy (Web version at http://www.wku.edu/coursecatalog/index.php?subcategoryid=75) states the following in regard to attendance: “Excessive absenteeism may result in the instructor’s dismissing the student from the class and recording a failing grade, unless the student officially withdraws from the class before the withdrawal deadline.” For this class, absence from more than 4 classes (whether excused or unexcused) will be considered excessive, and a borderline grade will NEVER be bumped up. The instructor will note students who arrive excessively late or leave excessively early; such instances will be counted as an absence.

Graded Work
• Exams (20% each) Three in-class exams will be given during the course of the semester (most likely one in each of February, March, and April). The exact dates will be announced in class and on Blackboard several days in advance of the exam. Make-up exams will be considered only in extreme (and excused) circumstances. Contact me before the exam if you feel that your situation merits a make-up.
• Homework and In-Class Activities (20%)
Homework will be assigned and collected regularly throughout the semester. Homework assignments will be posted on Blackboard and announced in class. It is your responsibility to print the assignment in adequate time to complete it before the due date. You may work with others, but each student is responsible for turning in a paper with sufficient work to support solutions. If it is apparent that you simply copied the homework from someone else, the total grade of the papers will be split among those involved. Grades on homework will be determined based upon correctness, but partial credit will be given. Late homework will not be accepted unless the situation merits, but no homework will be accepted after either the graded assignment has been returned or solutions have been posted. At most one late homework assignment will be accepted per student during the semester. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.
In-class activities will be completed throughout the semester. These activities may or may not be announced ahead of time. No make-ups will be allowed. The lowest in-class activity grade will be dropped.
• Final Exam (20%) A comprehensive final exam will be given on Tuesday, May 11 at 10:30 AM.

Grading Scale
90% - 100% A
80% - 89% B
70% - 79% C
60% - 69% D
0% - 59% F

Important Dates
February 1: Last day to add/drop
March 8-12: Spring Break
March 19: Last day to withdraw

General Statement
This class will contain material that builds on previous material covered, so DO NOT FALL BEHIND! If you miss a class, get the notes immediately. Understanding problems that I work in class and being able to work problems on your own are two completely different things. If you do not do the homework, you will find the exams very difficult. If you are having trouble with a topic covered, come see me as soon as problems arise (i.e., not the day before the exam). Office hours are for you, so do not hesitate to come see me (or make an appointment).