

*Practice of Statistics* by Moore, McCabe, Craig (8th Edition, © 2014)

the science of collecting, organizing, and interpreting numerical facts, which we call *data*. MTH 355, Elementary Statistical Methods, is an introductory 4-credit course dedicated to the study of Statistics.

All majors at UWSP and elsewhere require students to take and pass an introductory Statistics course. To that end, a goal for students in this class is to not only demonstrate enough learning of statistics to pass, but also to learn the material well enough to be of value as you pursue other fields of study. The learning standards we will follow are the ones set forth internationally by the College Board (CB) in conjunction with the American Statistical Association (ASA).

Furthermore, MTH 355 fulfills UWSP's Quantitative Literacy component of the General Education requirement. Accordingly, additional goals for the student include the following: (1) Select, analyze and interpret appropriate numerical data used in everyday life in numerical and graphical format, (2) identify and apply appropriate strategies of quantitative problem solving in theoretical and practical applications, and (3) construct a conclusion using quantitative justification.

Our textbook authors state, "We are bombarded by data in our everyday lives." This has never been more true! Making sense of it can have shape how you make decisions and how you live. To that end, perhaps the most important goal for students in this course is *understand statistics as it relates to our everyday lives, today and beyond*.

The purpose of an introductory course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

- \* Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns
- \* Planning a Study: Deciding what and how to measure
- \* Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability theory and simulation
- \* Statistical Inference: Confirming models

### Student Expectations and Grading

Students are expected to be present and to participate in class activities each day and do daily assignments.

*Attendance will be taken.* You should have a *graph paper notebook* for your daily assignments and a *binder* for distributed notes. You should have a *graphing calculator* with lists (I will demonstrate with a TI-84, so you might want to get a TI-83+ or TI-84) in class on a daily basis.

1. **Projects (25%):** Projects assess some essential concepts in the curriculum and are a significant part of the course. You are required to complete three projects in Stats. Projects will count as **25%** of your grade.
2. **Mid-Term Exams (40%):** There will be three mid-term exams. Each will have a Multiple Choice section and a Free-Response section. College Board questions will be used. Exams are taken at the scheduled time. Mid-terms will count **40%** of your grade, with the first exam counting 10% and the other two 15%. **Mid-Term Exam dates are October 3, October 27, and November 30.**
3. **Final Exam (25%):** The Final will be cumulative, will also have multiple choice and free response sections, and will count **25%** of your grade. Mark your calendar—**December 18, 5:00 – 7:00 pm**—as there are no make-ups.
4. **Quizzes and Formative Assessments (10%):** Quizzes will be given once between Midterm exams and will model the exam format. Formative assessments guide the instructor as to student progress while not lowering the student's grade will include these optional elements: notebook checks of daily text assignments, graded weekly College Board free-response questions (FRQs), and quiz corrections. If completed, these assessments will improve your overall grade. Formative assessments will count as **10%** of your grade. If you choose not to complete these formative assessments, your quiz average will comprise this component of your grade.

### The Grading Scale:

(Decimals at .9 or higher will be rounded up.)

A 93-100, A- 90-92, B+ 87-89, B 83-86, B- 80-82, C+ 77-79, C 73-76, C- 70-72, D+ 67-69, D 60-66, F below 60.

### Keys to Student Success

*Daily attendance* is crucial to your success in Stats. You will learn a lot by being here and staying engaged. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up the missed work or activity which may affect your grade. *Your attendance is required on test or quiz days if you want credit for the test or quiz.*

**Here are five recommended practices to help you to learn the course material.**

1. **Stay engaged** and participate in class activities. Ask questions. Request processing time or a re-statement.
2. **Study** your notes and complete examples as needed after class.
3. **Complete the projects** thoroughly.
4. **Read** the textbook as assigned. Do the examples.
5. **Do the assigned problems**, from the text and the College Board questions.

### Extra Help

I highly recommend working with study partners or groups. Come to Group Tutoring sessions with Annie. She's been through this and really knows her stats. (I will also try to be present.) Visit the Math Room (SCI A113A, 9 am-4 pm, 7-9 pm) with other questions on assignments. Take part in the TIMS (Tutoring in Math and Science) program in O18D ALB (formerly LRC, library basement) for one-on-one tutoring. See me during my office hours, or arrange another time to see me (Sci D221).

### Accommodations

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or [DATC@uwsp.edu](mailto:DATC@uwsp.edu). If you are allergic to or fearful of dogs, please contact Dr. Susie Rood in the DATC Office (LRC Rm 609 ALB, [srood@uwsp.edu](mailto:srood@uwsp.edu)).

### General Classroom and Course Rules/Policies: *Respectful, Responsible, Committed*

1. Please observe general university rules in the classroom and outside. UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities can be found at the For Students section of the Dean of Students website.
2. Please be on time and prepared for class.
3. Participate in class activity. Stay engaged! (See above.) **No texting. No ear buds. No cell phone use** without permission. Ask if needed.
4. Make-up tests or quizzes are not generally granted without pre-arrangement. An exception may be made in unusual circumstances.
5. Appeal of grading should be submitted in writing within 5 days of receiving the evaluation of assessment.
6. Copyright and File Sharing: Posting instructor-created notes and course material onto course-sharing websites directly violates the instructor's copyright on his/her academic materials. These materials are provided for your convenience as an aid to learning. **Permission to post instructor-created material on any such site is unequivocally denied.** You may have another student pick up hard copy of class notes for you.
7. No electronic cigarettes are allowed in our classroom.

### Contact Information for Mr. Fehrenbach

Email (best way to contact): [bill.fehrenbach@uwsp.edu](mailto:bill.fehrenbach@uwsp.edu)

Telephone: **715.346.2811** Department Office is **715.346.2120** or x2120

Teaching Hours: MTRF 10-11 and 12-1

Office Hours: Sci D221 MTRF 11:00 – 11:50 or right after class; TR 9:00 – 9:50; and by arrangement.

*I look forward to a great term together. My prediction: You're going to love Stats!*

*Mr. Fehrenbach*