

Introduction to Statistics - Math 105
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In this course we will analyze and summarize data to help you understand statistical statements that are made in the news, by your friends, etc. The course will require calculation and hence a scientific – but not graphing – calculator is required. I will expect that you have one to use in class as well as during exams.

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30am to 10am and by appointment (email is best).

WebAssign: We will be using the online web-tool **WebAssign** (www.webassign.net). I have put my course notes under the Class Resources tab; this will serve as your textbook. You will also have access to all of my (super fantastic) Powerpoint presentations.

To Login to WebAssign:

1. Connect to <http://www.webassign.net> and click **I have a class key**.
2. Enter `colgate 9987 2256`
3. Verify that the course is Introduction to Statistics with Aaron Robertson
4. If you do not have a WebAssign account you will need to create one; otherwise, login to your WebAssign account
5. You should then pay for WebAssign. You can use Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card, or pay with a check or PayPal. The cost is around \$30.

The Computer: We will be using Google's spreadsheet program (Sheets) so that your computer's operating system is irrelevant. I will be explaining how we will be using it before you need it for homework. You will also need a laptop computer to take in-class tests. I will be requiring the use of WebAssign's LockDown browser, which requires either a Windows or MacIntosh operating system (e.g., Linux is not supported). Make sure – beforehand – that they work with WebAssign. Please make arrangements (or see me) to have one available on the test dates below.

Assignments: The assignments are on the WebAssign webpage. The WebAssign system grades (and records) your homework, as well as lets you know whether you got a specific question correct or not. You have **3** chances (for most – but not all – problems) to submit each homework assignment so that you can correct your error(s) (if any) that occurred on the first two submissions.

Testing: There will be three midterms and a cumulative final. The midterms will be held during class times (10:20am to 11:10am) on the following days

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|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Midterm 1 : | MONDAY | OCT. 1, over Units 1, 2, and 3 | 300 Olin |
| Midterm 2 : | MONDAY | OCT. 29, over Units 4 and 5 | 300 Olin |
| Midterm 3 : | WEDNESDAY | DEC. 5, over Units 6 and 7 | 300 Olin |
| Final Exam : | MONDAY @ 9:00am – 11:00am | DEC. 17, over everything | 300 Olin |

The exams will consist of computational and theoretical questions related to the material covered (including Google Sheets). The exams will be timed and consist of fill-in and multiple choice questions. Time **will be** a factor used to gauge the degree of mastery of material. For every exam, you will need a device with access to the internet that works with WebAssign's LockDown browser to enter your answers. Please see me if this is an issue. The exams are strictly timed (by WebAssign). If you are allowed extra time for test taking, please see me in the first few weeks to get things set up.

Grading: The grading scale is a straight scale (i.e., 90-100 are As, 80-89 are Bs, etc) broken down as follows: Assignments and pop quizzes (15%), Midterms (20% each), and Final Exam (25%). The average GPA in my sections of statistics in recent years has been about 3.1. There **are** +’s and –’s for grades, e.g., 80.0-83.3 is a B–, 83.3-86.6 is a B, and 86.6 – 89.9 is a B+. The one exception is that there is no A+ grade in this class.

SOME IMPORTANT DATES

August

30 (R): First class

31 (F): No class (this Friday follows a Tuesday schedule)

September

5 (M): Last day of drop/add

26 (W): Q&A review (bring any HW questions)

28 (F): Practice (timed) midterm

October

1 (M): Midterm 1

8 (M): No class (Fall Break)

26 (F): Q&A review (bring HW questions)

29 (M): Midterm 2

31 (W): Last day to withdraw

November

19 – 23: No classes (Thanksgiving Break)

December

7 (F): Q&A review (bring HW questions)

10 (M): Midterm 3

12 (W): Practice Final

17 (M): Final Exam at 9am

ONLINE HOMEWORK DUE DATES

The homework due dates are on the WebAssign site. The homework is due **by the start of class** on the day it is due.