

SYLLABUS – STAT 240: INTRODUCTION TO BIOMETRY
Fall Semester 2006

Department of Statistics, Eberly College of Science
The Pennsylvania State University
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Office Hours: MF 12:30-1:30P; T 2:00-3:00P; or by Appointment
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Course Meeting Times:

Lecture: M, F 2:30-3:20P, Room 007 Business (Smeal)
Lab: W, 2:30-3:20, Room 064 Willard

Course Description and Objectives: Statistical analysis, sampling, and experimentation in the agricultural sciences; data collection, descriptive statistics, statistical inference, regression, one-factor ANOVA, probability. Microsoft Excel and Minitab for Windows will be used, but no prior experience with these programs will be assumed.

Course Materials: Elementary Statistics, 3rd Ed., Larson & Faber, Prentice Hall

Use of a calculator with statistical functions in two variables (x,y) is recommended and can be used on exams. For example, the TI-83 is a good calculator.

Grading Procedures: All letter grades will be assigned in accordance with the University's grading policy. Grades will be based on in-class examinations, graded homework assignments, and quizzes. Any discussion or contention concerning an assigned grade on an examination will be addressed between the student and instructor. See the Policies and Rules for Students for details.

Examinations and Grades: There will be three in-class hour exams, a final exam, and some in-class activities including quizzes. Tentative cutoffs are as follows: A, 92% or better; B+, 88%; B, 82%; B-, 80%; C+, 77%; C, 70%; D, 60%.

Composition of the final score: Hour Exams = 3*20=60%; Final=25%; Quizzes 10% Homework=5%.

Attendance: Attendance at all examinations is mandatory. Attendance at other classes is strongly encouraged. Students are encouraged to read assigned material and attempt to work problems **before** coming to class, in order to gain a better understanding of the class presentation. Class presentations are not a substitute for reading the textbook, but are used to give relevant examples and alternative ways of thinking about the material, and to emphasize important essentials. Homework assignments are intended to represent a minimum sample of homework a student should do, and late homework assignments will not be accepted without a valid excuse. The University provides special procedures for

time conflicts on the final exam. Notify me in advance if this will be necessary. No make-ups will be provided for exams other than the final. If you need to miss one exam, for reasons beyond your control, let me know as soon as possible **before** the exam, so I can assign the average of your other grades in place of the missing grade. Otherwise, a missing exam counts as a zero. This is not the same as automatically dropping one exam, because I will ask for a doctor's statement or other written evidence in order to average the other grades.

If at any time you have concerns about the course, corrections to my materials or class presentation, suggestions for improvement or the like, please do not hesitate to let me know.