

MA 113 B2 SUMMER II 2009

COURSE NAME: MA 113 B2 Elementary Statistics I
INSTRUCTOR: Ivan Zaigralin
OFFICE: MCS 250, MonThu 4:30pm-5:30pm or by appointment
EMAIL: melikamp@bu.edu

WHEN: Mon, Tue, Thu 6:00pm-8:30pm, Summer II 2008
WHERE: MCS B31
TEXT: *Introductory Applied Biostatistics* by Ralph B. D'Agostino, Sr.,
Lisa M. Sullivan and Alexa S. Beiser.

Catalog Description:

MA 113 may not be taken for credit by any student who has completed any MA course numbered 300 or higher. Students may receive credit for not more than one of the following courses: CAS MA 113, MA 115, or MA 213. Basic concepts of estimation and tests of hypotheses, ideas from probability; one-, two-, and multiple-sample problems. Applications in social sciences. Primarily for students in the social sciences who require a one-semester introduction to statistics; others should consider CAS MA 115 or MA 213.

Required Materials:

A calculator.

Website:

<http://www.melikamp.com/math.shtml>

The website will contain this syllabus, announcements and assigned homework. Check it before you email the instructor with questions.

Grading:

Final grades for the class are based on averages and curves as announced in lectures. The distribution is as follows:

25% Quizzes (5 for 5% each),
50% Exams (2 for 25% each),
25% Final.

One and only one lowest quiz score will be dropped (actually, set to 5%).

Homework:

You are encouraged to collaborate with your classmates while working on your homework assignment. Each assignment will be collected and reviewed. If you

fail to turn in an assignment or do a really poor job, you will lose 1% of your grade.

Quizzes:

July 2, 7, 16, 21, August 3.

Exams:

July 13, July 27

Final:

August 6. The final is cumulative.

Other dates:

Last day to drop without 'W' grade: Mon, July 6, 2009

Last day to drop with a 'W' grade: Thu, July 23, 2009

Conduct:

CAS Academic Conduct Code is available for your perusal at

<http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/undergrad-resources/code/>

All in-class examinations (quizzes, tests, final) are closed books and closed notes, with no collaboration allowed. Violators will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the Academic Conduct Code may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Make-up exams:

None, except for documented emergency exceptions made at the instructor's discretion.

Other Needs:

If you have any other needs or an emergency, please let the instructor know.

Objectives:

Statistics may be the most important branch of mathematics for the citizen in today's society, and it is important that all of us be confident consumers of statistics in both our professional and personal lives. Our goal in this course is statistical literacy: the ability to think critically about numerical information and to use it as a consumer to come to useful decisions and conclusions.

The heart of statistics is data, that is, information—usually numbers—gathered from some study. We will focus on the three parts of statistics: gathering data ("experimental design"), summarizing data ("descriptive statistics") and interpreting data ("inference" or "decision theory"). While good algebra skills are helpful, you will find that much of the course relies on developing intuition you already have. Our emphasis will be on quantifying, that is, numerically measuring or describing what you see.



Good luck, mwa-hey!