Statistics 10: Summer I 2006
Statistics and Quantitative Literacy

1 Basics

- Lecture Times and Location: M Tu W Th F, 12:30-1:45 PM, in 124 Social Science Building.
- Instructor: Melanie Wilson, 027 Old Chemistry Building, 684-5844, melanie.wilson@duke.edu
- Instructor’s Office Hours: By appointment.
- TA’s Office Hours: TA office hours are held in the Statistical Education and Consulting Center in the Old Chemistry Building, Room 211. The TAs hours are Mon. thru Fri. 10 AM-12PM.

2 Advice for Success in Stats 10

ASK QUESTIONS AND DO MANY PROBLEMS IN THE BOOK!!!
The best way to learn statistics, or any quantitative subject, is to work problems. Although you usually won’t have to turn in problems from the book, working these at home on a regular schedule will significantly improve your understanding of the material. Also, the homework and exams (discussed below) are based on the concepts reviewed by the problems in the text, so a solid understanding of these problems increases the chance that you will earn a high grade in the course.

Most sections in the text are followed by a set of exercises. I recommend working these as you read. There are also review exercises at the end of most chapters; doing these a few days after reading the chapter will consolidate your understanding.

Finally, please use us, the TAs and instructor, for help when you get stuck. We are allies in your assault upon statistics.

3 Grades

Graded work for the course will consist of homework, group projects, warm ups, a midterm, and a final exam. Your final grade will be determined as follows:

- Warm Ups: 15%
- Homework: 20%
- Group Projects: 15%
- Midterm Exam: 25%
- Final Exam: 25%
Missed homework, quizzes, lab reports, or midterms can only be excused under exceptional circumstances. The Duke policy for illness requires a short-term illness report or a letter from the Dean; except in emergencies, all other absenteeism must be approved in advance (e.g., an athlete who must miss class may be excused by prior arrangement for specific days). For emergencies, email notification is needed at the first reasonable time.

If a student has an excused absence from the midterm exam, then the weight of that material is transferred to the final exam. Similarly, if a student has an excused absence from a homework, quiz, or lab report, then the missing grade will be imputed by the average of all other corresponding grades. If a student has an excused absence from the final exam, then special arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis.

4 Descriptions of Graded Work

Homework:

There will be one homework assignment a week, they must be turned in during the beginning of class on each Friday of that week. After the all homeworks have been turned in we will go over any questions on the assignment.

Group Projects:

Each week, there will be one or two days where we will split into groups and work on projects pertaining to that week's lectures. These projects will be graded on a pass or fail basis. There will be a total of 10-11 group projects, the student must pass 8 of these projects to receive all of the percentage points. The projects teach you how to apply the skills discussed in lectures and readings. They are essential in learning the course concepts and therefore to pass each project I must see that each member of the group is putting in an equal amount of effort. We will also randomly assign one group to present the project before the end of the class period.

Warm ups:

There will be short in-class warm ups following the days that lectures are given. The purpose of these is to help students realize instantly what parts of the current material they have mastered and what parts are unclear.

Exams:

There will be one in-class midterm and a final at the end of the semester.
5 Academic Honesty

You are expected to abide by Duke’s Community Standard for all work for this course. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students for adjudication; the minimum penalty for cheating is failure in this course. Ignorance of what constitutes academic dishonesty is not an excuse for violations.

For homework, you are allowed to discuss problems in general, but the final solution and write-up should be your own. For in-class exams and quizzes, you are required to work alone and for only the specified time period. For projects, you are allowed and encouraged to help each other, but each person must complete their own project.