

Prerequisites: Satisfactory placement. See <http://odin.math.nau.edu/placement.html> for details.

Description: Contemporary quantitative methods, especially descriptive statistics, elementary probability, examples of statistical inference, linear and exponential models of growth and decay, and applicable discrete models. Fulfills liberal studies foundation requirement.

Textbook: Using and Understanding Mathematics, second edition.

Grading: A : 90%, B : 80%, C : 70%, D : 60%

Weights: 20% homework, projects, quizzes; 60% tests; 20% final

- Tests: There will be 3 tests. The exact dates will be announced at least a week before the test in class and on the course web page. Use of graphing calculators or computers may not be allowed on the tests. You are responsible for material covered in class whether or not it is in the text. It is important to take notes, and review them after class. I may not follow the book word by word. You are expected to read the text, preferably before the material is covered in class.
- Comprehensive final exam:
- Quiz: A quiz may be given at any time without announcement, especially on days with low attendance. There may be group and individual quizzes.
- Homework/Projects: Homework and projects will be assigned and collected regularly. Check the course web page for due dates. Homework is the foundation of your learning. You cannot expect to solve all assigned problems easily. Some problems require a great deal of effort and time. Even if you are unable to solve the problem, the time spent on trying is not wasted. The only way to build mathematical skills is to think about problems. The more you think the more you know. Do not spend your time on memorization. Try to understand everything as deeply as possible. The emphasis in this class, like in any mathematics class, is on understanding. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class. No late homework is accepted. Class attendance is essential. It is recommended to create study groups to work on the problems. Write out your solutions neatly. Include detailed explanations but be concise. Do not turn in scratch work. Even if I am able to figure out what you think, I can't give you full credit for a badly written out solution. Solving a problem is half of the battle, the other part is to write it down so that someone without any previous knowledge can understand it. Please write your name with capital letters and the class time on everything you turn in. I may teach more than one section of this class and there is a chance of confusion if you don't supply all the information. Please collect and save all graded and returned material. Check your scores regularly on the grade-sheet posted on the web.
- Extra credit: A few extra credit problems may be assigned. They can be turned in any time during the semester before the last day of class. Do not turn it in with your regular homework but give it to me.

Make up tests will be given only in case of verified medical or other emergency which must be documented. You must make a reasonable effort to notify me as soon as you can, preferably before the missed test is given. The best way to contact me is by email.

All the information on this syllabus are subject to change and any class announcements regarding the syllabus are considered official amendments to it. This syllabus and other information is available on the course web page.