

Stat 60 / Psych 10 Introduction to Statistical Methods
Autumn Quarter 2005

Instructor: Guenther Walther, Sequoia Hall, Room 135. Phone: x3-3066.
e-mail: walther@stat

Office Hours: Following each lecture, MTWTh 10–11, or by appointment.

Teaching Assistants: There will be six TAs: Amy Kapp (office: 229 Sequoia Hall, email: akapp@stanford.edu), Christopher Bourez (bourez@stanford.edu), George Chang (206, gtchang@stanford.edu), Jiehua Chen (242, chenjh@stanford.edu), Ling Chen (chenling@stanford.edu), Donal McMahon (donalmc@stanford.edu).

They will help you with questions arising from class or from the book. I will let you know about their office hours as soon as they let me know.

Textbooks:

Statistics, Third Edition, by D. Freedman et al. (Published by Norton).
This text is *required*.

Introduction to Probability and Statistics, by Mendenhall and Beaver.
This text is *optional*.

The Cartoon Guide to Statistics, by Gonick and Smith. This text is *optional*.

All books are available in the bookstore, and are on reserve in the Math & CS Library.

Course Content and Objectives: The objectives of this course are:

- (1) to develop an understanding of some of the basic concepts of probability and statistics,
- (2) to enable students to apply simple statistical techniques, and
- (3) to help students to be informed and critical readers of quantitative arguments.

Prerequisites: Some familiarity with elementary algebraic notation at the high school level is assumed, but there is no calculus prerequisite. However, don't let the verbal style of the textbook fool you into thinking that the concepts are easy.

Course Organization: There will be four lectures per week. One day (tentatively Friday, starting September 30) will be devoted to problem sessions

held by the TAs. All relevant class information, such as homework assignments, solutions, and organizational matters, will be posted on the course web page which you can access in CourseWork after you register for the class in Axxess. (On a browser on campus, you only need to type 'coursework', off campus you need to use the full URL 'coursework.stanford.edu'). If you are not registering for the class in Axxess, then you can register for the class web site as a guest in CourseWork; if you decide to add the class in Axxess at a later time, you will be automatically upgraded from a guest to an enrolled student. Please check the class web site this Thursday for the assignments to the sections on Friday. Handouts from past classes can be found in the wooden cabinet opposite office 229 Sequoia Hall.

Homework: There will be weekly homework assignments, which will be collected in the problem sessions and returned a week later. The homework assignments and solutions will be posted on the class web page described above. You may discuss homework problems with other students, but you have to prepare the written assignments yourself. Please show your work.

Assessment: The final exam will be on Friday, December 16, from 8:30 to 11:30 at a place to be announced. **If you cannot take the exam at that time and day, then you will have to take this class in a different quarter.** Exceptions will only be made due to official university affairs, such as athletic commitments. There will also be weekly quizzes (tentatively scheduled for Tuesdays, starting October 4). The quizzes are closed-book (calculator may be needed), but for the final you may bring material to be detailed in due course.

The final exam will count 40% towards your grade, the quizzes 40% and the homework 20%. When calculating the final scores for quizzes and homeworks, your worst quiz and worst homework score will be dropped. On the other hand, there will be no makeup quizzes and no late homework will be accepted unless the TA agrees, *before* the homework is due, to accept it due to very special circumstances. If you miss more than one homework or quiz due to illness or to official university affairs, then you will be granted more drops. You can check your homework and quiz scores also on the class web site.