

## Basic of Descriptive and Inferential Statistics - STAT 1380

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**Instructor:** Yin Lin, Ph.D.

**Credit Hrs:** 3

**Office:** Bell Hall 316

**Prerequisite Courses:** MATH 1319, 1320, 1508 or equivalent; or TCCN MATH 1314

**E-mail:** [ylin4@utep.edu](mailto:ylin4@utep.edu)

**Technical Support contact info:** 1-866-321-2988, <http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/>

### Course Description

From the UTEP course description: "A course in statistical literacy. Emphasis will be on standard descriptive measures of location, spread, and association. Regression, probability and sampling, and binomial distribution. Interpretation of data which occur in daily life (polls, weather forecasting, surveys, quality control, etc.) will be stressed."

This course emphasizes understanding and interpreting statistics in everyday life. We will explore topics ranging from medicine to economics and we will utilize statistics in order to help you in understand and make sense of very complex topics. We do not focus on the theory behind statistics in favor of emphasizing the interpretation and correct understanding of statistical results in research and popular media. This is a statistical literacy course in the sense that you will learn to be a savvy consumer of statistics.

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### Course Objectives

By the end of the course you will have a basic understanding of the role of statistics in society, be able to perform basic statistical computations, and understand and interpret statistical results.

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### Required Textbook

Seeing Through Statistics (4rd ed. 2015), Jessica Utts

### Reference Book

UCLA online text (in English and Spanish): [UCLA TEXT](#)

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## Course Organization

This course is contained on the Blackboard website associated with the course. All materials and links to materials are contained on this website (with the exception of the textbook).

## Course Activities/Assignments

This is an online course. However, this in no way means that you are not required to actively participate in the course! Attendance is required and your attendance is recorded via the Blackboard website, participating in the class activities, and completion of the chapter quiz. **WARNING: If you regularly do not attend this class within two weeks, you will be dropped from the class or your grade will be reduced!**

## How to succeed in STAT 1380

Below is an outline of the behaviors of a successful online STAT 1380 student:

- Regularly "attends" class online, just as if we were meeting in a brick-and-mortar location (however, when you attend is up to you!)
- Reads relevant material participating in week activities (material provided by instructor or text)
- Completes the chapter quiz after read notes for that chapter, notes that you may have multiple tries for the quiz to receive a good grade
- Starts text exercises early
- Completes text exercises on time
- Studies for exams at least 1 week before the exam date
- Does not "cram" for exam by staying up all night before the exam

We will "meet" online as a class. However, when you choose to have class is up to you. The lecture and activities for class are contained in the class Blackboard website and are available for completion 24/7. In other words, if you want to attend class at 2 am after work, you can!!!

During and after class you are expected to participate in class discussions by leaving messages on the Discussion Board, posting relevant material, and participating in class activities. You will be required to participate in small group discussions and present your results to the class via the Discussion Board on the Blackboard website. Details of these activities will be posted when pertinent.

## Assessment of Course Objectives

Text exercises assess how well you understand the material of the course. Text exercises will be graded for completion and accuracy.

Three exams and one final exam will be given during the course. These exams will both be taken online via the BB course. There is no makeup for those exams for any reasons. So

please prepare to take exam early. Once you start the exam you must complete the exam within 90 minutes. Like the other class exam, you have only one try for the exams.

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## Discussion Boards

For EACH week, you are expected to contribute to the class by posted One original discussion posts on the discussion board for the class. You will receive points for making these posts in your course grade. The instructor reserves the right to deduct points for non-relevant, inappropriate, or non-thoughtful posts. The key is to have something to add to the class discussion of a concept or topic; Saying “I don’t understand this stuff” doesn’t contribute to the class discussion. On the other hand, asking “what do you guys think of this paragraph?.....here is my interpretation.....” is a great post. Your posts should contribute to the class discussion in some way and, under NO circumstances, should your posts belittle or harass any other member of the course. Please see <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/> if you question whether or not a particular post is appropriate.

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## Student Resources

To assist you in this online course, UTEP provides the following resources:

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Familiarize yourself with the bookmarks on the right-hand side of the Blackboard student portal (visible before entering into a course) as well as the resources below.

- [UTEP Library](#) - access to a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [RefWorks](#) - bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks [tutorial](#) and [Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide](#)
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#) - submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources available here
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#) - ask a tutor for help and explore other math resources available here
- [Elluminate](#) - online virtual classroom/conference room with multiple features including audio, video, instant messaging, interactivewhiteboard, application sharing, file transfer, and session recording/playback with synchronized audio/chat/notes.

- **The Instructor** ♦" Email is best for contacting me. My email is [ylin4@utep.edu](mailto:ylin4@utep.edu).

In order to check that your personal computer is set up for attending and participating in this online course and for technical support, please visit:

Technical Help: <http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/>

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## Grading Policy

Chapter quizzes	15%
Discussion board postings	5%
Text Exercises	10%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Final Exam	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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## Make-up Policy

You should be in the habit of logging on to the course website daily so that you do not miss any announcements or assignments. NO LATE assignments will be accepted. If you miss the deadline for taking an exam, you MAY NOT make it up. If a situation may arise that will prohibit you from turning in assignment on time, contact me IMMEDIATELY.

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## Attendance Policy

Attendance is REQUIRED and your attendance is recorded via the Blackboard website, participating in the class discussions, completing chapter quiz and/or chapter assignment.

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## Academic Integrity Policy

Please see <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785>

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## **Civility Statement**

This is a class where participation is required. Participation in the class work is required. Additionally, you are required to read and comment on the netiquette guide (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/>). This will be one of the first assignments given in class.

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## **Disability Statement**

If a student has or suspects she/he has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Disabled Student Services Office (DSSO) at 747-5148 or at <dss@utep.edu> or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DSS accommodation letters and instructions.

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## **Military Statement**

If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and /or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact me as soon as possible.

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## **Notice of Safe Assign:**

This course may utilize third party software that has the ability to automatically detect plagiarism on documents submitted for grading.