

Important Course Information - Math 1372/D552 - Statistics & Probability - Spring 2016

Instructor: Suman Ganguli

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Office Hours: Mondays 12p-1p & by appointment (in N724)

Course outline/syllabus:

<http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/academics/deptsites/mathematics/docs/courses/MAT1372.pdf>

Textbook: *Introductory Statistics (3rd Ed.)* by Sheldon Ross

- additional suggested text: [*How to Think About Statistics*](#) by John L. Phillips

OpenLab course profile/site:

- <https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/groups/mat1372-statistics-spring2016-ganguli/>
- <https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/mat1372-statistics-spring2016-ganguli/>

Please set up an OpenLab account and “join” the course profile to get notifications about announcements & supplementary material that will be posted to the course blog, discussion forums, uploaded files, etc.

- *For instructions on setting up an OpenLab account, see <http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/blog/help/openlab-help/>*
- *You can still access all the OpenLab material without setting up an account using the links above (by design, the OpenLab is “open”!)*

Spreadsheets: We will use spreadsheets throughout the course. We will use them every day in class, and you will need to use them for your homework and exams. There are two options for spreadsheet programs to use:

- 1) **Microsoft Excel:** This is a powerful and widely used spreadsheet program. It is installed on most campus computers, including the machines in our classroom. However, you will have access to Excel off-campus only if you have purchased Microsoft Office, and you will have to save your Excel files to a USB drive.
- 2) **Google Sheets (recommended):** This a free online spreadsheet program which you can access from any web browser if you have a Google account (<https://www.google.com/sheets>). All your files will be saved to your “Google Drive.”

For the material we will cover in the course, Google has the same functions as Excel. I will use Google Sheets in class, and will post links to some of my Google spreadsheets on OpenLab. For these reasons, I recommend you use Google.

Grading:

A = 93.0 - 100.0

C+ = 77.0 - 79.9

W = withdrawal before **April 11**

A- = 90.0 - 92.9

C = 70.0 - 76.9

WF = withdrawal after April 11

B+ = 87.0 - 89.9

D = 60.0 - 69.9

B = 83.0 - 86.9

F = 0 - 59.9

B- = 80.0 - 82.9

Midterm exams (40%): There will be 3 midterm exams. The lowest of your 3 scores will be dropped (so your 2 highest midterm scores will each count as 20% of your final grade).

- There will be **no makeup exams**. A missed exam will count as a 0 and will be the lowest exam score that is dropped. Each exam date will be announced in class at least one week ahead of time.

Final Exam (30%): The final exam will be on the last meeting of the semester (**Wednesday, May 25**). The final will cover all the topics studied, and must be taken to pass the course.

Homework/Quizzes (10%): There will be 10 homework assignments. Each homework assignment will count as 1% of your final grade. Homework assignments and due dates will be announced in class & on OpenLab.

- The best preparation for the exams is to **do all the homework**, and to **ask for help** with any exercises that you have questions about.

Projects (15%): There will be two projects which will consist of applying the statistical methods we will learn over the course of the semester. Further details will be provided shortly.

Attendance/Participation (5%): The college requires that attendance be recorded at each class session. In addition to attendance, various aspects of class participation will count towards this component of your grade: asking questions in class, volunteering answers or comments, and coming to office hours.

- **Please make every effort to attend class, and to arrive on time.** Important information will be conveyed at the beginning of each class, and it is very disruptive if you walk into class late. Late arrivals will be recorded.

Tips for Success: If you want to do well in the course and learn the material:

- **Attend class**--take notes and ask questions!
- **Read the book**--especially the examples!
- **Do the homework**--ask about any exercises that you don't understand completely!
- **Take advantage of additional resources**--come to office hours, use the free on-campus tutoring, take advantage of online tutorials!