

MA171 SYLLABUS

Course Description and Overview

The course consists of a study of the methods of elementary probability and statistics. Some time is devoted to finding probabilities for both discrete and continuous probability functions, and discussing the role probability plays in estimation and decision making. The main emphasis of the course, however, is on methods of describing data, finding sampling estimates and testing hypotheses. Throughout the course, applications are stressed as is the interpretation and understanding of the statistics and methods used.

The student will:

- become familiar with basic probability and statistical methodology and terminology
- learn how to present data graphically and be able to read and interpret such presentations
- learn how to calculate estimates and other statistics, and interpret and compare statistics
- find probabilities and understand the role of probability in statistical decision making
- learn how to test a hypothesis and use statistical procedures to help make decisions
- be able to identify an appropriate statistical procedure to use in a given situation and identify when a procedure is improperly used

In addition to lecturing, the following tools will be utilized in this course to enhance the student's learning process:

- statistics software
 - graphing calculators
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Text

- GENERAL STATISTICS, by Chase & Bown, 4th Edition (c) 2000. (or 3rd Edition (c) 1997) *Chapters 2 and 3 from the 3rd Edition have been combined into Chapter 2 for the 4th Edition. The remaining chapters are renumbered in the 4th Edition*
- Formula Sheets.
- MA171 Supplement.
- MA171IS course disk.

Other Materials

- Graphing Calculator; TI-85/TI-86 recommended
- Computer with Internet Browser (Internet Explorer 4.0 or NetScape 4.05).
Internet access is not required! All files can be accessed by running the Browser off-line.

Prerequisite

C- or better in MA103, MA104, MA105 or equivalent

Tentative Schedule

Chapters 1 thru 11 will be covered. Some sections in these chapters may be omitted.

Homework

Homework assignments are listed in the MA171 Supplement. Homework is for your benefit and does not need to be submitted.

Tests

The test schedule is listed on this Web Page. All testing will be proctored and closed book. *You will need your calculator, formula sheets and a pen/pencil during tests.* Formula sheets can be used during testing. *Formulas do not need to be memorized.*

Grading

- 80% test scores
- 20% Final Exam (Comprehensive).

Grades: Grades are assigned based on the % of total points obtained as follows:
A 92-100 C+ 77-79

A- 90-91 C 73-76
B+ 87-89 C- 70-72
B 83-86 D+ 67-69
B- 80-82 D 63-66
F 0-62

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