MA 171 Introductory Probability and Statistics
Winter 2005 (11371)
Meeting Time: MWRF 3:00 - 3:50, WS3805

Text Book	General Statistics, 4th Ed., Warren Chase & Fred Bown, Wiley
Instructor	Dr. Roxin Zhang, rzhang@nmu.edu
Office	New Science Facility (NSF) 3013, 227-1596
Office Hours	Before/after classes, MWRF 2:00 – 3:00 or by appointments.
Prerequisite	The minimal requirement is a C- or better in MA103 or MA105 or satisfactory math placement test recommendations.
Course Contents	Statistics, as defined in our text, is the science of collecting, simplifying, and describing data, as well as making inferences (drawing conclusions) based on the analysis of data. These form two basic areas of statistics - descriptive and inferential statistics. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the fundamentals of the introductory statistics. The first part of the course (Chapter 2-6) emphasizes on the descriptive statistics including the basic concepts in statistics, data analysis techniques and probability distributions. The second part of the course is on the inferential statistics that mainly focuses on how and why the inferences (conclusions) are made based on the data.
Tests/Quizzes	There will be approximately 5 biweekly quizzes or projects, one midterm and a final exam. Quizzes will count for 50% towards the grade, midterm 20%, final exam 25% and classroom attendance 5%. One lowest quiz (including absence) will be dropped out.
Homework	Homework will be assigned after each lecture and will not be collected. However, you must do homework and review the lectures in order to comprehend the materials that will prepare you for the quizzes and tests.
Grading	Grades are given as the Northern conventions: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- and F. You are welcome to check with the instructor regarding your performance any time during the semester.
Liberal Studies Requirement	This course satisfies the Formal Communication Studies requirement. These courses are designed to introduce students to the ways in which information and ideas are expressed using a communication system other than English. Such courses should foster the student's ability to conceptualize and communicate in an orderly, rational manner. Characteristics of a communication system include: 1) possession of a grammar; 2) operation from an established set of rules; 3) reasoning properties such as deduction, inference drawing and problem solving. This includes courses in languages and those in which the central focus of the course is on statistics, computers or formal logic.
Disability Statement	If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock (227-1700; TTY 227-1543). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state and University guidelines.