

Math 104 Statistics

1. Math104: Statistics

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Credits: 3 hours

2. Course Description: This course provides a conceptual yet practical introduction to the field of statistics, a branch of mathematics. It targets the analytic needs of those whose career interests fall into the broad range of business and economic subject areas. Its focus, where possible, is upon application. Nevertheless, it will provide as solid a conceptual understanding as is consistent with the minimal mathematical background required by the course. Knowledge of algebra is assumed.

3. Course Goals: A statistic is often simply the word chosen to denote a numerical fact. Last year's GDP is a statistic. The subject of statistics, however, is much more than that. The text defines statistics as the art and science of collecting, analyzing, presenting and interpreting data. The ordinary role of statistics is revealed by its utility in making decisions, often business and economic decisions, more effectively. Our understanding of the world, as well as any portion of the world which commands our particular interest, is comprised of both factual and subjective or impressionistic data. Particularly (but not exclusively) with respect to the former, that understanding depends profoundly upon our ability to gain access to the most important and potentially useful data, to subject that data to appropriate and rigorous analytic techniques, to interpret wisely the result of that work and to see that those results are insightfully and effectively brought to the attention of those in the best position to take fullest possible advantage of their value. It is the goal of this course to set students firmly on the professional path most likely to see them begin to realize and achieve these possibilities.

4. Assessments:

Ten Session Quizzes	50%
The Final Exam	25%
Contribution to Discussion Topics	25%