

**Department of Statistics
The Wharton School
University of Pennsylvania**

Statistics 101

Spring 2008

Professor: Andreas Buja (Sections 001 and 002)
Ruth Heller (Section 003)
Offices: JMHH 471, 467
Contact: Send email only in case of emergency.
For the address, see the instructors' web pages.
Your primary source for questions and answers should be the webCafe discussion board (see below). Otherwise, send email to the TAs.

Classes meet: Section 001, Mon/Wed 10:30-12:00, in G06 JMHH
Section 002, Mon/Wed 1:30-3:00, in G06 JMHH
Section 003, Tue/Thu 12:00-1:30, in 240 JMHH

Office hours: Fri 1-3pm, 471 JMHH (Sections 001 and 002)
Mon 1-3pm, 467 JMHH (Section 003)

Teaching Assistants and Stat Lab

Name:	James Piette	Sathya Anand
Email:	jpiette@wharton	sanand@wharton
Phone: (215-)
Office: (JMHH)
Office Hours:

The Stat Lab provides help with statistics to anybody on campus. It is located in F96 JMHH and is open on days when classes are in session. For staffing and hours, see

<http://www-stat.wharton.upenn.edu/~juntianx/statlab.html>

Whoever you find there may or may not be able to help with homework. Therefore, most useful for you are the Stat Lab hours staffed by our own TAs:

James Piette: ... Sathya Anand: ...

Course website

Statistics 101 is using webCafe. You can gain access by going to

<http://webcafe.wharton.upenn.edu>

and following the link to the Statistics Department. All materials for this course will be distributed and managed via the website, and you will be able to monitor your grade entries throughout the semester.

An important feature of webCafe is the **discussion board** where everybody can place questions and comments. We will be using it extensively for answering your questions about homeworks, tests and scheduling problems. You are urged to go here first to see whether your question has already been asked and answered, and, if not, to place your question so it can be answered once for everybody.

Note for non-Wharton students: If you do not have a Wharton computing account, you will need to establish one to access the website. The account also provides access to the computing labs in Wharton and to the intranet. To get an account, on or after the first day of classes, go to

<http://accounts.wharton.upenn.edu>

After you have obtained your account, allow up to 12 hours for activation.

Wharton students and students who have recently taken a Wharton course have existing accounts.

Course Overview

This course develops ideas for helping to make decisions based on data. Some of the following material will be covered: data displays (including boxplots, histograms, scatterplots), summary statistics (including mean, standard deviation), uncertainty and probability as limiting relative frequency, the normal distribution as a reference standard, statistical estimation and tests, including standard errors, confidence intervals, p-values.

The course does not dwell on the details of computation—its main focus is understanding of a few deep concepts and interpretation of data and statistical results.

Course Materials

- Textbook: a new book by Foster and Stine, available from Wharton Reprographics and also online on webCafe (where it is free and may be all you need).
- Computer software: JMP-IN – Statistical Discovery Software, Thomson. Download a 12-month license from www.e-academy.com (good also for Stat 102 where the software is also used). If you have a Mac or any version of Windows other than Vista you should have no problems.

If the textbook is not sufficient, you may consult other books, such as “The Practice of Business Statistics” by Moore, McCabe, Duckworth and Sclove, or “Statistics” by Freedman, Pisani and Purves.

Homework

- There will be about 12 homework assignments.
- Each homework will be assigned at a lecture and will be due in class a week later unless otherwise noted. *Hand in a paper copy; no email. You must keep a **dated** file with your solutions on your computer in case the paper copy gets misplaced.*
- Homework will not be accepted late.
- The homework is designed to teach, and you are encouraged to seek help from the instructor and the TAs if you have questions. You may also work with and help each other. *You must, however, submit your own solutions, with your own write-up and in your own words. Verbatim copying is against the honor code and entails deductions from the homework score.*

Examinations

One midterm examination will be held Thu, March 6, 6:00-8:00pm.

The final examination will be Fri, May 9, 3:00-5:00pm.

Examinations should be written in ink. Those submitted in pencil will not be considered for regrading.

Grading and Grading Policy

Your course grade will be calculated as 20% homework, 30% midterm examination, and 50% final examination.