Syllabus

Instructor: Weixing Song
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Website: www.msu.edu/~songweix

Office Hours: 10:00-12:00 a.m. and by appointment (M, W).
Help Room Hours: 2:50-4:00 p.m. (M, W) C100 Wells Hall

Prerequisite: MTH 103 or MTH 110 or MTH 116 or LBS 117

Text: Moore & McCabe, *Intro to Practice of Statistics*

Course Description: STT421 is the first course in a two-course sequence (with STT-422) in introductory probability and statistical inference for students without a background in calculus. STT-421 covers descriptive statistics, elements of probability theory, discrete and continuous distributions, estimation and hypothesis testing. Continuous themes are the importance of quality data, the careful use of terms, and the clear presentation of statistical information and analysis. Students will use computational software package MINITAB.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all meetings of the class. If you miss a class for whatever reason, you are responsible for all materials, assignments and deadlines missed. While office hours provide an opportunity for further clarification of materials covered in class, office hours will not substitute for classes.

Homework: There will be five homework (20 points each) assigned regularly in the class. The quiz and exam problems will be based on them.

Quizzes: There will be two 30- minute quizzes (50 points each) scheduled for September 21 and November 23. There will be no make-ups for quizzes without written documentation. The quizzes are used to practice the material taught in the lectures and help you develop problem-solving skills.

Exams: There will be a midterm exam, and a final exam.
- Midterm Exam(100 pts.): *Wednesday, October 19*
- Final Exam(100 pts.): *Monday, December 12*
**Note:** All exams and quizzes are “closed book” and “closed notes”. Formula sheets will be permitted. The exams and quizzes will contain questions concerning text material and problems, classroom examples and discussions. No make-ups are given without a valid excuse.

**Grades:** Points are earned through one midterm examination (100 points /1.5 hours), one final examination (100 points/1.5 hours), two quizzes (50 points each/30 minutes), five homework (20 points each). So the total number of points is 400. Your grade will be converted into a percentage and be determined by the following grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-78%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>55-59%</td>
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<td>79-84%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>67-72%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>65-69%</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>0-64%</td>
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**Important Dates:**
- August 29: First day of classes; $100 late enrollment fee begins.
- September 2: Close of adds; Last day to change from credit/no credit or visitor.
- September 5: Labor Day.
- September 22: End of 100% refund
- October 18: Middle of the semester; Last day for withdrawal/dropping with no grade reported.
  Incompletes must be processed.
- November 18: Final date to initiate withdrawal from the University.
- November 24: Thanks giving Day.
- December 9: Last day of classes.

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to make any changes he considers academically advisable. Changes will be announced in class. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changed policies.