Introduction to Statistical Methods — Stat 2000, Section 002, Fall 2001

<u>Instructor:</u>   Dr. Jürgen Symanzik
Office: Lund 325
Phone: 797–0696
FAX: 797–1822
e–mail: `symanzik@sunfs.math.usu.edu`
WWW: `http://www.math.usu.edu/~symanzik/`
`http://www.math.usu.edu/~symanzik/teaching/2001_stat2000_2/stat2000.html`
Office hours: MWF 12noon – 1pm and by appointment

<u>Text:</u> *Electronic Textbook "CyberStats", accessible at* `http://www.cyberk.com`.

<u>Classes:</u> MWF 10:30am – 11:20am (Mo, August 27 – Fr, December 7, 2001).

<u>Room:</u> **Geol 405**

<u>Course Objectives:</u>

1) Develop statistical thinking.

2) Develop problem–solving skills.

3) Understand basic statistical concepts and inference.

<u>Course Requirements:</u>

0) Prerequirement: High school algebra and basic computer skills, in particular the ability to access and use the World Wide Web.

1) Class Attendance: You are responsible for all material assigned as required reading and/or presented in lecture.

However, this section of Stat 2000 is different from most other courses you have seen so far. This section does not use any printed textbook but works with an electronic textbook on the Web. You have to register to use the electronic textbook and have to pay a usage fee of US$ 30 to gain access to this electronic textbook until 12/31/01. Each student must register to be able to turn in homeworks electronically through the electronic textbook.

The class format will also be different. There will be no instructor who explains everything in full detail in front of the class. Instead, the instructor will guide you through the material on the Web, summarize important features and results, and answer your questions.

You have to spend a major amount of your time to work through the electronic textbook, i.e., answer the electronic questions and experiment with the interactive examples.

2) Homework: Assignments will be posted on the Web every week. Homework will be collected at the beginning of class in the following week. Homework mailed in, sent by FAX, or sent by e–mail by the due date will be accepted as well. In general, late homework will not be accepted. There are 13 assignments (25 points each). However, only your best 12 homework assignments will contribute to your course grade. This way, you can even miss to turn in an entire homework assignment without hurting your overall course grade. Homework assignments are worth a total of 30% (300 points) of your course grade.

Homeworks will not be marked in detail. Points will be awarded depending on your written efforts working on each of the exercises ("no work at all" up to "full solution"). Solutions will be handed out in class. **Note that full points in a homework assignment does not mean that everything you did is correct — this is just an indicator that you showed enough work in answering each question. It is your responsibility to carefully check your own solution with the solutions handed out in class.**

Be **guaranteed** that each quiz contains **at least one** of the previous homework exercises. If you like, you may work in groups on the homework assignments. In fact, you are encouraged to do so. However, each person must turn in an individual homework solution sheet. Photocopies are not permitted.

3) Software: This course will not focus on any particular statistical software package. Instead, we will make use of software and teachware available on the Web at many occasions. You can use any statistical package you want for the homework assignments. However, you have to understand concepts and ideas for the quizzes and the final.

4) Quizzes: There will be two 200 point 50min quizzes on Fr 9/28 and Fr 11/2. In case you miss a quiz (or the final) and want to take a make–up quiz/final, you have to provide a verified document that shows the reason for your absence on the exam day. If you are sick, see a doctor and let him/her verify your visit. If you miss a quiz/final due to a death or birth in your family, I would like to see the death or birth certificate. If you can't make the quiz/final due to job–related circumstances (e.g., travel), talk to me in person **before** the exam (I may ask you to provide me with airline tickets and hotel bills in your name). In case of emergencies, police reports and other similar documents will be acknowledged to allow for a make–up quiz/final. If you have no verified document, there is no way at all to make up for a missed quiz/final. Just calling and telling me that you are "sick" clearly is not enough for a make–up exam!

In any case, please contact me as soon as possible if you cannot participate in an exam (best if in advance) and make sure to obtain the required verification document that will allow you to take a make–up exam.

5) Final: There will be a 2 hour, 300 point comprehensive final exam. Everyone has to take the final exam.

6) Late Adds: The last day to add this class is the 15th day of the semester (Mo 9/17). Attending this class beyond that date without being officially registered will not be approved by the Dean's Office.

7) Disabilities: If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center, preferably during the first week of the course. Any requests for special considerations relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc. must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative formats — large print, audio, diskette or Braille.

Important Dates:

Homework posted on Web: every Monday between 9/3 and 11/26 (13 assignments).

Homework due: every Monday in class between 9/10 and 12/3.

Quizzes: Friday 9/28 and Friday 11/2 (50min in class).

Final: date to be determined (2 hours).

Grading System:

Final	30%	300 pts
Quizzes	2 x 20% (= 40%)	2 x 200 pts (= 400 pts)
Homework	30%	300 pts
Total	100%	1000 pts

Course grades will be generally comparable (in terms of distribution) with grades assigned in other beginning statistics courses.

The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.