

The Instructor

Dr. Robb T. Koether

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Introduction

The class meets in Bagby 022 at 12:30 - 1:20 MWF and in Bagby 111 at 1:30 - 2:20 on Thursdays.

The text for the course is The Basic Practice of Statistics, 7th ed., by David Moore, et al.

The web page for this course is at

<http://people.hsc.edu/faculty-staff/robbk/Math121>

Grading

There will be daily homework, weekly quizzes, three tests, and a final exam. In the final average, these will have the following weights:

Category	Weight
Average of quizzes	30%
Average of the tests	50%
Final exam	20%

Homework

It is very important to keep up with the homework. As you do the homework, make an effort to memorize the formulas and the procedures. It is much easier and more effective to memorize a little at a time than a lot at once. What you learn on one homework assignment will be reinforced on later homework assignments.

When doing the homework, make full use of the available resources:

- The textbook
- The lecture notes
- Your calculator
- Fellow students
- Math tutors (in B 111, 8:00 - 11:00, Sun - Thu)
- The instructor

I strongly recommend that you do the homework as soon as possible after class, perhaps during the following period, while the day's lesson is still fresh. I am generally available until 5:00 pm each day. The tutors are generally available in Bagby 111 from 8:00 pm until 11:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday. Do not wait until all of your helpers are off duty to begin your assignments.

More importantly, do not put off doing the homework until the night before the quiz. You will not be able to learn that much material in one night and you will not have time to develop your problem-solving skills. Most importantly of all, do not put off doing the homework until the day before a test. By then it is too late to learn it.

At the beginning of each class meeting (except Tuesdays), I will spend up to 10 minutes working one or two homework problems in detail from previous assignments. You may request a problem that you would like to see worked. Of course, outside of class, I will help you with as many problems as I can.

Quizzes

There will be weekly quizzes. Each quiz will be given on a Wednesday during the first 10 minutes of class. It will consist of one or more questions taken verbatim from the previous week's homework assignments (assigned Monday through Friday).

No make-up quizzes will be given. If you anticipate missing a quiz, then you may take the quiz early, but you may not take it after the class has taken it. In exchange for that policy, at the end of the semester, I will drop your two lowest quiz grades.

Tests

You should make every conceivable effort to be present and prepared for an hour test. If you do not feel that you are prepared, you must take the test anyway. The only valid excuses for missing a test are serious illnesses and unavoidable emergencies which can be verified. If you foresee that you must miss a test, then you should make arrangements, before the absence, to take the test. If you miss a test for a reason that is less than compelling, you will not be allowed to take the test later. If you miss a test, it is essential that you contact me and make arrangements at the earliest possible moment. Failure to follow this policy will invalidate any excuse.

When you study for a test, do not attempt to do all of your studying in one night. Instead, spread your studying out over several nights. On the night before a test,

the most important thing you can do is to get a good night's rest. Do not drink alcohol on the two or three days before a test. If you do, it will affect your ability to concentrate, think logically, and recall facts. In other words, it will make it look as if you didn't study.

The test schedule is as follows:

Test	Date
#1	Fri, Feb 12
#2	Fri, Mar 18
#3	Fri, Apr 15

Final exam

The final exam will be cumulative. It will be given on Tuesday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m. in Bagby 022. Tell your parents not to buy you a ticket for a plane that departs before that time. Tell your ride to wait for you. Everyone must take the exam. Read the Examination policy in the Academic Catalogue.

Attendance

Read the Class Attendance policy in the Academic Catalogue. Attendance will be checked at the beginning of each class. If you arrive late, you will be counted absent. If that happens and you would like to be marked present, see me after class and I will mark you "late," not "absent." Otherwise, late arrivals and absences will all count as absences. Every two late arrival will count as one absence.

The only valid excuses for missing class are

- An illness which required a doctor's visit. Provide a note from the doctor containing the date of the visit, the doctor's signature, and the doctor's telephone number.
- An approved college activity that can be verified.
- Any absence excused by the Dean of Students.
- A true emergency. Details will need to be provided.

When assigning final grades, attendance (including late arrivals) will be taken into account.

Absences	Action
0 - 3	Grade bonus (+3 points if $60 \leq$ your grade ≤ 97)
4 - 6	Neutral
7 - 9	Grade penalty (-3 points if $63 \leq$ your grade ≤ 100)
> 9	Withdrawal

A warning letter will be sent out after the 9th absence.

The last day to drop a course without a grade of W is Friday, March 25.

Calculators

A calculator will be necessary for this course. I encourage you to use a more advanced statistical calculator with keys for the mean and standard deviation. I strongly recommend the TI-83 or the TI-84. All calculators will be permitted, including programmable calculators. Instruction on the use of the TI-83 and TI-84 will be given in class. Outside of class I can help you with other types of calculator.

The Honor Code

If I find any indication of cheating on tests or the exam, I will try to confront you with the evidence first. Then the evidence will be turned over to the Honor Court. They will follow up as they see fit.

You should be careful not to talk to others or to open books or notebooks during a test. If you must use the restroom during a test, take no test or study materials with you. Even then, you should not need to go to the restroom more than once. Do not bring a cell phone to the tests.

If you must take a make-up test, either before or after the regularly scheduled test, you must not communicate any information about the test to any other student or receive such information from any other student by any means whatsoever. Even to indicate whether you thought the test was easy or hard constitutes an Honor Code violation.

Classroom Etiquette

- Do not leave the room during the class. If necessary, use the bathroom before coming to class. If you are thirsty, get a drink before class.
- During a lecture, you are free to ask questions. It is polite to raise your hand first and wait to be called on.
- You should not talk to other students while I am talking.
- While working assigned problems in class, you are free to talk to other students provided you are talking about the assigned problems.
- Do not sleep in class.
- Do not work on assignments from other classes during class.
- Do not read the newspaper during class.
- Do not use any electronic devices other than a calculator during class.