

MATH 114: Foundations of Statistics.
Syllabus
Fall, 2018

Class time: : MWF 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM.

Class Location: : GFS118.

Section: : 39410R

Instructor: : Qi Feng

Office: : KAP 406H

Office hours: :

Wednesday, Thursday 1:00-2:00 p.m. (tentative) or by appointment.

Email: :qif@usc.edu

Textbook: : Statistics (Fourth Edition), by Freedman, Pisani and Purves

Teaching Assistant: : Austin Pollok

Email: :pollok@usc.edu

Discussion: : TTh, 8:00-8:50, 9:00-9:50, KAP 134

Course description: This course is an introduction to basic tools of statistics. We will cover basic tools of descriptive statistics (histogram, average, etc.), basic probability theory, normal approximation sampling, chance models and test of significance.

Course webpage: The online course-management system *Blackboard* will be used in this course, grades, course announcements and weekly homework assignments will be updated here. Detailed weekly course schedule will be updated at my course webpage *MATH114*.

Homework: There will be 14 weeks of lectures and 13 homework assignments. A weekly (or so) homework will be assigned and its due date will be announced on the course web-site and also on the assignment sheets. **No late homework** will be tolerated. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

The homework assignment will be due *at the beginning of the class* on the day it is due. Anything after that will be considered late and can only receive 50% credits.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given on Thursday discussion session, except for the 1st week and the two midterm exam weeks. The quizzes last 10-15 minutes, and cover the assignment due the same day week. More specifically, quizzes will test students' understanding of basic definitions and ability to solve conceptually important (but not extremely difficult) problems. There will be no make-up quizzes under any circumstances. The lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Exams: There will be two 50-min in-term exams (scheduled for Sep 21st and Oct. 26th.), as well as a final exam. If you miss the in-term for a *documented* reason (illness or some other extraordinary circumstance), your score on the final exam will be used in the grade calculations instead. If there is any conflict with previously announced religious holiday, the student should contact the professor two weeks prior to the scheduled exam in order to arrange another time.

The in-term will focus on the material covered since the beginning of the semester. The final will be cumulative. Electronic devices, textbooks and notes are not allowed in the exams, However, a standard scientific calculator can be used.

Grading: Here is how your final grade will be composed:

Final Exam	30%
In-term Exam 1	20%
In-term Exam 2	20%
Quiz	20%
Homework	10%

The following point needs to be stressed: the grade you get will be based only on the work you present in your in-term and final exam and homework. I am not allowed to and I will not use any other information. In particular, no extra credit work will be assigned.

Academic Honesty: Cheating is not tolerated. Everything that you present as your own work (especially the work that is supposed to be graded) should, in fact, be your own work, and not something copied from an external source. In case that a student is caught in violation of the principles of academic honesty enforced at USC, please review the [Trojan Integrity Guide](#). All students are expected to be aware and abide by these standards.

Accommodations: Any student requesting accommodations based on a disability is required to register with [Disability Services and Programs \(DSP\)](#) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodation can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early as possible during the semester.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make changes of the syllabus and schedule at any time.