

# M338 (Mathematical Statistics) Fall 2008

## Syllabus

**Instructor:** Dr. Hundley

**Office:** Olin 234

**Office hours:** Tues, Thurs, Fri at 11AM (subject to change)

Feel free to schedule an alternative time to meet if you can't make these hours. Otherwise, if my door is open, feel free to come in. You can also email me anytime. *Please Note: If my door is closed, that means I am working on something or I'm in a meeting- Only knock if it's something really important!*

**Office Ph:** 527-5151

**Email:** hundledr@whitman.edu

**Course Webpage:**

<http://people.whitman.edu/~hundledr/courses/M338.html>

All course handouts (plus some extras) will be posted online. You might bookmark it for easy reference. You can always go through my homepage to get to the class page as well.

1. **Text:** "Freund's Mathematical Statistics with Applications", 7th edition, Miller and Miller, 2004.
2. **Technology:** You may use calculators on homework, but not on exams or quizzes (unless specified otherwise).
3. **Grading Criteria.**
  - (a) **HOMEWORK:** Homework will be assigned daily, but not collected. It will be up to you to stay current- The first 10-15 minutes of each class day is typically devoted to answering your homework questions, so it will be important that you're staying current!
  - (b) **QUIZZES:** There will be a short quiz on most Fridays. The quizzes will typically be homework problems (perhaps with changes) so that I can keep track of how you are doing. You may drop the lowest quiz score at the end of the course (so you'll keep the best 9 out of 10 scores). The quiz average will make up 10% of your overall grade.
  - (c) **STATISTICS HW:** Each week, you will be given some problems in statistics to work out. These will be collected every Wednesday. The total score will be worth 10% of your overall grade.
  - (d) **EXAMS:** There will be three in-class examinations: September 26, October 24, and November 21st. Each of these will be 20% of your overall grade.

The final exam will be administered at the time published in your student handbook and will be comprehensive. The final exam is worth 20% of the overall grade.

*NOTE:* The exam dates will not change, but the material covered on them may change from the attached schedule, depending on how we do.

**GRADING:** Grading is done on a standard scale:

90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D, 59 and below=F

I will use the plus/minus grading only sparingly in those borderline cases.

4. **Collaboration:** You are encouraged to discuss homework assignments with other students and you should form study groups. However, you need to be sure that you understand the homework problems, as they will be the basis for the quizzes and exams.
5. **Health problems.** If you're having to miss class due to health problems, you need to get in touch with me as soon as possible, either by phone or email. If you are ill on the day of an exam, we can work out other arrangements for you **only** if you receive verification from a health professional (i.e., go to the clinic and get checked out). You can then have the Dean of Student's office send a message to that effect to me- I don't need to know any details, just that you have gone through the procedures. This includes mental health problems, as well as chronic conditions.

6. **Learning Disabilities.** If you have a learning disability, we can make the proper arrangements for you. All arrangements need to go through the office of Academic Resources *prior* to taking an exam. (This also applies generally: If you're having academic difficulties, see the people at Academic Resources!)
7. **Academic Honesty.** Academic standards will be *strictly* adhered to as outlined in your student handbook. This means that cheating will not be tolerated. Looking at another student's exam or quiz (whether or not you mean to copy answers) while taking it will be considered cheating. Students caught cheating will fail the exam or quiz, and the incident will be referred to the Dean of Students, as outlined in your student handbook.
8. **General Classroom Conduct:** As the instructor, I try to make the classroom environment as conducive to learning as possible. I need your help to do this:
  - Please consider yourself invited to:
    - Come to class ready to talk about statistics!
    - Ask questions
    - Do your homework as it is assigned- Do not wait until the day before the exam or quiz to discover that you have a lot of questions!
    - Please come see me if you have questions. If you cannot make normal office hours, let me know. Generally speaking, if my office door is open (and it typically is), feel free to stop by. If my office door is closed, that will mean that I shouldn't be interrupted (that won't be very often).
  - Please follow these guidelines- Not doing so will annoy me and your fellow students.
    - Cell phones- Off please- (That of course includes texting)
    - No laptop computers.
    - The class begins on the hour- That is not the time for you to show up! That means: Please come to class early enough so that you are ready at the top of the hour. There may be times when it is unavoidable for you to be late for class, but this should be a very rare occurrence.