

Advanced Placement Statistics

Welcome to the wonderful world of AP Statistics! You are entering a strange land: a class taught in the math department by a math teacher that is not a math class. AP Statistics is a class about critical thinking and making decisions based on data. You will be required to READ your textbook and do the activities in it as well as the problems. Mathematically speaking, the class should be easy for you. A great majority of the math we compute will be on the graphing calculator. (If you don't like using calculators, start bonding with yours immediately. You will not be successful in this class if you are not comfortable using a graphing calculator.) The class, however, is not easy—you will have to learn how to **think** and communicate those thoughts in written form. Our journey is long, and May is right around the corner - so let's begin!

Throughout this journey, you will be responsible for your own learning. That responsibility begins with the papers you are receiving. There are certain things that you will be responsible for over summer break. Much of the summer assignment is vocabulary oriented and will incorporate graphs and charts that you learned in previous mathematics courses. Put the vocabulary into your memory as soon as possible and relearn how to make and interpret these graphs again. Statistics is full of vocabulary and the nature of the AP Test requires you to use these specific terms and know exactly what they mean. Statistics also starts with the interpretation of these different graphs and charts...

As I mentioned before, there is something that might be substantially new that will be part of the summer assignment and the course in general – the graphing calculator. You are required to have a graphing calculator for this class everyday. You should have a TI-83+ or a TI-Nspire. These are the most versatile and powerful calculators for the price. A TI-83 will work, but for a couple dollars more you get much more in terms of add-on capabilities. A TI-89 will also work very well, but class directions are geared toward the 83/83+ or Nspire. You are expected to learn how to use your calculator for statistical purposes during the summer assignment. Don't worry, though, because your textbook should help you figure keystrokes out. Also, your calculator manual and calculator-savvy friends are good references.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT: Completely READ Chapter 1, and complete the following problems: Section 1.1: 15, 19, 25, (MC) 27-32; Section 1.2: 37, 45, 54, 65, 67, (MC) 69-74; Section 1.3: 79, 81, 89, 94, (MC) 107-109. This assignment will be collected the first day of class. We will do a quick review of these concepts and then have a Chapter Test following the review (like day 3 or 4).

We have a new text this year and it is FANTASTIC! I'm sure reading about statistics is not fun for many of you, but it is one of the leading books for our course and has great examples and tips for taking the AP Statistics type problems. If you have difficulty with some of the summer topics, please email me. I will be available during the last few weeks of August before school starts, so if you have questions, please ask! Please feel free to work with each other and help each other too (I encourage study groups!)

Please pace yourself with the above assignments and have a great summer! If you need to contact me for any reason, please email me at: DOTTERYB@SLSD.ORG. I will check it periodically throughout the summer...I look forward to seeing you again in the fall!

~Mrs. Dottery