Instructor: Dr. Zenia N. Agustin
Office: SL 1310
Phone: (618) 650-2357
e-mail: zagusti@siue.edu
Office Hours: MW 2:30 pm - 4:30pm, or by appointment


Course Description: This is an introductory course in the practice of statistics. We encounter statistical ideas in everyday life without even realizing it. Our main concern is to gain understanding from data and to use statistical reasoning properly. The broad topics that we will tackle are: examining data, producing data, and analyzing and drawing conclusions from data.

Course Objectives: The main objective of this course is to introduce you to the practice of statistics as a tool for learning about the “real” world. Emphasis will be on understanding how to use statistics rather than on memorizing formulas. After completing this course, you must be able to:

(i) think critically about data;

(ii) use appropriate graphical and numerical summaries;

(iii) apply standard statistical inference procedures; and

(iv) draw relevant conclusions from sound statistical analyses.

Course Requirements: Homework problems will be assigned at the end of each class meeting. These problems, however, will not be turned in. Instead, problem sets and quizzes will be given regularly during the semester. Quizzes will be given during the last 20 minutes of the class on the following dates:

June 4, June 11, June 30, July 7, and July 23
There will be two exams to be given on June 18 and July 14 and a comprehensive final exam during the final exam week.

In addition, you will have to complete a project where you will illustrate the proper use of statistical concepts and methodology. This project is due on July 28, 2003.

**Note:** Late problem sets will **not** be accepted. Make-up quizzes and/or exams **may** be given only if there is a valid excuse, the instructor is notified **in advance** and the appropriate documentation is presented.

**Grading Policy:** Your final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

- Quizzes and Problem Sets – 100 points
- Project – 75 points
- Two Exams – 200 points
- Final Exam – 125 points

The straight scale will be used in assigning your final grade, i.e., 90% – 100% is A, 80% – 89% is B, etc.

**Tips for Succeeding in this Class:**

1. Come to class prepared everyday.
2. Read the textbook.
3. Work out homework problems and be prepared to discuss your solutions in class.
4. Participate in class discussions. **[Statistics is NOT a spectator sport.]**
5. Ask questions.
6. Make full use of my office hours. They are meant for you and my services are free.
7. Keep a positive attitude.