

**2013-2014 COURSE SYLLABUS:  
AP STATISTICS  
MRS. GENTRY**



**COURSE:**

An Advanced Placement (AP) course in Statistics is comparable to the first semester of Statistics in college. It is a very demanding course and success depends on ability, prerequisite skills, and a willingness of a student to study, do the assignments, and participate in class. Students who take the AP statistics course will be expected to seek college credit by taking the AP Statistics exam on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**DESCRIPTION:**

As stated by the AP College board:

“The purpose of the AP Course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns.
2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study.
3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation.
4. Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.”

**Textbook:**

*The Practice of Statistics, Fourth Edition*, Daniel S. Yates, David S. Moore, Daren S. Starnes. W. H. Freeman and Company, New York.

**PRE-REQUISITES:**

Three years of college preparatory mathematics to include: Math I, Math II, and Math III or Accelerated Math I and II.

**TECHNOLOGY:**

All students **MUST** have a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator. Graphing calculators are used on all assignments and assessments. If you don't already have one of these calculators, you **MUST** purchase or rent one for the semester. TI-83's can be rented from RHS at the cost of \$25 for the semester. Please see me if there is any reason why you can't rent or purchase a calculator.

**SUPPLIES:**

Graphing calculator—**REQUIRED** TI 83+ TI 84+ recommended

Binder for tables, handouts, notes, homework, etc.

Pencil, pen, highlighter

**\$5 math donation (to purchase items for class activities)**

Strong work ethic and a willingness to ask for help.

**AP STATISTICS STUDY HINTS:**

Much of the information we will encounter in Statistics amounts to educated common sense. While some of the material will seem easy, it is important that you develop a habit of study to assist you when the material becomes more difficult.

**READ YOUR TEXT** each night and work the problems that are assigned. Keep your homework neat and organized for grading and for your review—the practice is not meant to be busy work or a means to a grade, it is there to help you learn the subject. **DO NOT** put off your

problems until they are due as you will get overwhelmed trying to catch up. Students who do the homework do much better on the test.

**ASK QUESTIONS** and be an active participant in class. . . We need to work together for you to be successful.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY** understanding the material, it is imperative that you come before or after school for additional help. Like all math classes, statistics builds throughout the semester and you will quickly get behind if you do not stay on top of the material. I am here before school every day and stay after school on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; however, I must have advance notice that you intend to come for help.

#### **CELL-PHONES:**

Cell phone use is prohibited in our classroom unless it's being used for BOYD activities. Phones must be turned off and placed in the cell phone caddy or in your purse/book bag. Phones will be taken up **ON SIGHT**. The first time we take your phone you may have it at the end of class. Any time after that, you may pick them up after school.

*Any technological devices plugged into an outlet in our room will be removed and may be picked up at the end of the day.*

#### **GRADING:**

Your grade in this course will be determined by your performance on tests, quizzes, homework, class participation, graded assignments, projects, and exams. *Late work is penalized 10% per day.*)

- **Tests:** Test will be given at the end of every chapter (this is usually every week to week and a half)
- **Quizzes:** There will be section quizzes they may be announced or unannounced. They are to help you see what you understand and need to study in each section before the Chapter Test. Quiz grades may be replaced by test grades if the test grade is higher.
- **Homework:** Homework grade will be based on effort and completion.
- **Graded assignments:** Computer assignments, class activities, AP Practice Questions, graded problems, and reviews will be scored on their statistical accuracy, organization, appearance, and communication quality. Some small projects will also be assigned. I will distribute a grading rubric with each project.
- **FINAL EXAM:** You will work in a group to design, conduct, analyze, and present a survey or experiment on a topic of your choice.
- **Participation:** This grade should be a freebie. It means you are at school, taking notes, participating in classwork, and working with your partner or group, asking questions about material that you do not understand as well as answering questions and helping your partner or group with questions that you do understand. You must make an honest attempt (not half-hearted) to complete every problem. I will give you a scoring rubric. Absentees lose these points unless you are on a school activity.
- **Quarter Grade Calculations:**  
Test/Quizzes: 50%, Participation, 5%, Homework: 10%, Graded Assignments: 35%

#### **SEMESTER GRADE:**

1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks 42.5% + 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks 42.5% + Final 15%. (The final exam will be a project)

#### **EXPECTATIONS:**

My goal is for you to understand Statistics and how it plays a role in your current and future lives.

My hope is that you will be successful in passing the course and earn a passing score on the AP Exam.

My expectation is that you will put forth the effort necessary to be successful in a college-level course.

#### **CONTACTING ME:**

If you need to get in touch with me, you can email me at [pgentry.rhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us](mailto:pgentry.rhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us) or call the school (706-935-2254) and leave a message. I will return your call as soon as I can. My planning is 1st period. . Email is the best way to get in touch with me since there are a limited number of phones available at the school

January 15, 2014

GO TIGERS!!!!



Dear Parents

Your son or daughter has been enrolled in my AP Statistics class for the 2nd semester at Ringgold High School. Students who successfully take the AP Statistics exam will receive a college credit for this course and will not have to take the 2nd semester of college statistics. The exam will be given on Friday, May 9, 2014.

This course is unlike any math class your child has ever had before. The “correct answer” is not always the number obtained but incorporates the analysis and conclusions drawn from the numbers. Statistics is the art and science of designing studies and analyzing the information those studies produce. This course will have more project based learning that your child has done in previous math classes and involves a lot of writing to answer the problems.

Even though your child is a growing older and headed for college, I still believe communication between us is very important. Please read over the attached course syllabus and let me know if you have any questions. You may always access Parent Portal to check on your child’s progress in my class. Please remember this is a college level class and the requirements are more demanding than what most students are used to. In addition, statistics is a different thought process than the math your child has done in previous math classes. To learn the main concepts of statistics, logical thinking and perseverance are more important than high powered math skills.

**Fees:** The mathematics department is requesting a \$5 per student donation to help with classroom supplies and expendables. I do a lot of projects in Statistics and this money is used to help pay for the supplies. Please make the checks payable to Ringgold High School.

I look forward to communication with you concerning your student. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to email me at [pentry.rhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us](mailto:pentry.rhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us). You may also call; however, email is the best way to reach me because there are a limited number of phones in the building. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call.

If you have email capabilities, it would be easier for us to keep in contact through email since there is a limited number of telephones available in the building. Would you please send me a brief message so I can have your email. Please put your child’s name in the description line. In the message, please include the following

- Your name
- Your child’s name
- Your mailing address
- Your daytime phone number and cell phone number
- The best time to call during the school day.
- Any problems or concerns you may have about this class.

I will be using Edmodo.com to communicate with my students. Each student will have an account that they can access anywhere, anytime. I will be posting notes and assignments on this site. If you would like to access the homepage, please register with the parent code given on your child’s Edmodo page. Instructions on how to access and use Edmodo are being sent home on the first day of school.

I will also be using Remind 101 to communicate important dates such as tests and projects. Instructions on how to sign up are included in the Edmodo instruction sheet. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Thank you for your support. I am looking forward to a successful semester with your child.

Pam Gentry