MA 171 General Statistics  
Winter 2013

MA 171 consists of a study of the methods of elementary probability and statistics. Some time is devoted to finding probabilities for both discrete and continuous probability functions, and discussing the role probability plays in estimation and decision making. The main emphasis of the course, however, is on methods of describing data, finding sampling estimates and testing hypotheses.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. David Buhl

COURSE MATERIALS: http://www.coursecompass.com

OFFICE: NSF 1117  
OFFICE HOURS: W, Th, F: 9:00 – 10:00 or 11:00 -12:00 WS3802  
or by appointment (NSF 1117)

PHONE: 227-2089  
EMAIL: dbuhl@nmu.edu

LEARNING OUTCOMES
The student will:

- become familiar with basic probability and statistical methodology and terminology;
- learn how to present data graphically and be able to read and interpret such presentations;
- learn how to calculate estimates and other statistics, and interpret and compare statistics;
- find probabilities and understand the role of probability in statistical decision making;
- learn how to test a hypothesis and use statistical procedures to help make decisions; and

GRADING (Percent)
Anticipated chapters to be covered include Chapters 1 through 10 (omitting Chapter 4). Evaluation of learning outcomes will consist of homework, quizzes and unit exams. Based on your percentage the class, the grading scale will follow:

90 – 100 A (-)  
80 – 90 B (+ or -)  
70 – 80 C (+ or -)  
60 – 70 D (+ or -)

This course satisfies the Formal Communication Studies requirement.

These courses are designed to introduce students to the ways in which information and ideas are expressed using a communication system other than English. Such courses should foster the student’s ability to conceptualize and communicate in an orderly, rational manner. Characteristics of a
communication system include: 1) possession of a grammar; 2) operation from an established set of rules; 3) reasoning properties such as deduction, inference drawing and problem solving. This includes courses in languages and those in which the central focus of the course is on statistics, computers or formal logic.

Disability Services
If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office by: coming into the office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock; calling 227-1700; or e-mailing disserv@nmu.edu. Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.