

Towson University
MATH 237: Elementary Biostatistics
Section 005
TTh 3:00pm – 4:50pm
Spring 2021
(4 credits)

Dr. Nicholas Marshburn

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COURSE MATERIALS

Textbook: Biostatistics: A Foundation for Analysis in the Health Sciences, 11th ed. by Daniel and Cross

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Catalog Course Description: Elementary statistical concepts and their application to the biological and health sciences. Descriptive statistics, estimation techniques, hypothesis testing, analysis of enumerative data, one-way analysis of variance, and simple linear regression and correlation analysis. Minitab, a statistical package, is introduced as a computational tool. Not open to students who have successfully completed MATH 231 or MATH 330 or to mathematics majors.

EVALUATION

Your final grade will be based on your success in meeting the goals and objectives of this course as demonstrated throughout the semester and in the course assignments and examinations. The breakdown is shown here, but the individual components are elaborated upon in the following section.

Homework	15%
Minitab Projects	15%
Two Midterms (Equally Weighted)	40%
Cumulative Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

93 ≤ **A** < 100%
90 ≤ **A-** < 93%
87 ≤ **B+** < 90%

83 ≤ **B** < 87%
80 ≤ **B-** < 83%
77 ≤ **C+** < 80%

70 ≤ **C** < 77%
67 ≤ **D+** < 70%
60 ≤ **D** < 67%

Homework: Weekly homework will be collected (that is, uploaded to Blackboard) by end of day Tuesday. Late homework is worth half credit. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Projects: You will complete about five projects using the Minitab Statistical package. You can access Minitab through the Towson Virtual Workspace.

KEY DATES

See academic calendar by clicking on “calendars and events” at the top of the University homepage www.towson.edu

- Thursday, January 28: Last day to drop a course with no grade posted to academic record. Last day to add.
- March 14-21: Spring Break, University closed.
- Monday, April 5: Last day to withdraw from full semester courses with a grade of “W”. Last day to change to Pass or Audit grading option.
- Tuesday, May 11: Last day of classes
- Final exam date and time: TBA

REMARKS AND POLICIES

1. Each student is expected to follow the policies and obey and the rules and regulations of Towson University and should expect these rules and regulations to be enforced.
2. **Student Workload Expectations:** Federal and State regulations require that students are expected to spend at least two hours outside of the classroom working on course-related activity for every one in-class hour. For this class, that means the expectation is that you will spend at least eight to twelve hours per week outside of the four “hours” of classroom time for success in MATH 330.
3. **Communication:** I will communicate with the entire class via announcements in Blackboard, and with individual students via their Towson University email. ***You are expected to check both of these regularly, and are expected to respond as appropriate.*** Please set your Blackboard notification preferences so that you will receive my announcements in a timely manner - sometimes they will contain information that you will want to have promptly.
4. **Cell phones** in class should be set on vibrate or turned off. Students are expected to leave the room when receiving emergency or important phone calls and return to class when completed.
5. Should it be necessary to readjust the grading schedule (for example, due to the cancelling of an exam or graded assignment), at the discretion of the instructor, the Final Grade for the course will be calculated using a weighted sum, maintaining the original percentages assigned to the graded categories.
6. **Professionalism** is expected from all of my students:
 - The student attends every class, arriving on time and staying through the end of class.
 - **No electronic devices** (besides calculators) are used in any way during class unless otherwise explicitly directed. In particular, use of phones or computers as “alternative entertainment” during class is prohibited. Obviously, this type of a distraction is detrimental to your learning. It is also rude and distracting to your instructor and classmates. A student who repeatedly has trouble complying with this requirement may be asked to keep their cellphone and laptop in their backpack.
 - The student conducts him/herself during class in a mature manner that does not distract others, including instructor.
 - The student participates in class activities and discussions in a mature manner.
 - The student demonstrates reasonableness/flexibility in changes to the schedule or syllabus.
 - The student communicates with the instructor and peers in a constructive, professional manner.
 - The student demonstrates a commitment to learning.
 - The instructor reserves the right to ask a student who demonstrates any disruptive behavior (including the use of cell phones) to leave the classroom for that session; if the situation warrants it, student will be reported to University Administration.
7. **Academic Integrity Policy:** This class is conducted in accordance with the Towson University’s Code of Conduct as described in the TU Catalog or accessed at <https://www.towson.edu/about/administration/policies/documents/policies/03-01-00-student-academic-integrity-policy.pdf> This code prohibits "all forms of dishonesty including cheating (and)

plagiarism." Plagiarism is copying the words of another or the use of ideas of another without proper citation. Cheating includes using unauthorized materials, technology, or web sites during an assessment or for an assignment. If a violation of the academic integrity policy appears to occur, the course instructor will meet with the student to present the evidence and request an explanation. If the faculty member determines that a violation has occurred, the faculty member informs the student, in writing, of the academic penalty and of the student's right of appeal. This letter also goes to the Office of Student Conduct. The range of potential penalties includes deduction of points or rejection of assignment, failure of course, or a more severe disciplinary action by university authorities. The more severe the violation (in terms of extensiveness and intentionality), the more severe the penalty. Note in particular for this class: If using a computer for your exam, navigating to any unauthorized website constitutes an academic integrity violation, and will be reported.

8. **Accessibility and Disability Services:** This course is in compliance with Towson University policies for students with disabilities. *You must supply the instructor with a memo from ADS authorizing your accommodation before any accommodation can be made.* Since accommodations are not retroactive, it is strongly recommended that you provide instructor with notification as early as possible in the term. To register with ADS, contact Accessibility and Disability Services at 410-704-2638 (Voice) or 410-704- 4423 (TDD), or visit the ADS office in the Administration Building, Room 232. Students who suspect that they have a disability but do not have documentation are encouraged to contact ADS for advice on how to obtain appropriate evaluation. If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.
9. **Department of Mathematics Commitment to Diversity: Towson University values diversity and fosters a climate that is** grounded in respect and inclusion. Everyone participating in this course is expected to treat all others in accordance with this vision and policy. TU's diversity tenets include sex, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, color, nationality, gender identity or expression, mental/physical ability, religious affiliation, age, and veteran status. If you feel these expectations have not been met, please contact the Math Department's Diversity representative, Dr. Goode at egoode@towson.edu.