Instructor: Dr. Neal Smith
Email: ns smith12@gru.edu. I will only respond to properly written emails. Emails that contain text-speak, blatantly poor grammar/spelling, or similar rubbish will be deleted unread.
Office: Allgood N319
Office Hours: How about 2:00-4:00 MW, and by appointment. It is the responsibility of each student to seek help when necessary. The (free!) Mathematics Assistance Center in Allgood N304 is another resource available to students, although you should not expect the tutors to be able to help you with the software we use in the course.

Text: We will be using an “open” (i.e. free!) textbook for this course, Introductory Statistics by Illowsky and Dean.

How to get the text:

You will need a Webassign pass for this course to access the online homework. An electronic copy of the text + Webassign access can be purchased for $32.95 by visiting http://www.webassign.net/features/textbooks/illowskyintrostat1/details.html

When you try to access the course through WebAssign, you’ll need a “course key”. The key for this course is:
grua 4355 7384

You can also obtain a free .pdf copy of the book at
https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/introductory-statistics/get

You can also obtain a physical copy of the book for a nominal fee via Amazon’s print on demand service.

Website: A variety of materials for the course (including handouts I’ll use in class and notes on using R) can be followed by following the appropriate links at http://spots.gru.edu/nsmith12/2210bio.html

Technology: You might want a basic $10 scientific calculator, but the technology we will be using in this course is the free, open-source stats platform R. See the “Installing R” document on my website if you wish to install R on your personal machine (which I would strongly recommend), and the software should be installed on all the machines in the following computer labs:
Science Hall 1056   Allgood 152   Math Assistance Center (Allgood N304)

Course Goals: After completing the course, not only should you be knowledgeable about basic practices in statistics, but you will also gain some experience using the stats platform R which is often used in the professional community. In addition, in this course, you will probably do more writing than you are accustomed to in a Mathematics course; the idea is you should be able to clearly (but rigorously!) communicate findings about statistics.

Grading: Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following items.

3 'mid-term' exams (each 15%), Comprehensive final (30%), 4 projects (each 5%), homework/quizzes (5% total)

If your final percentage is in the interval... Your course grade is...
[87%, 100%] A
[77%, 87%) B
[67%, 77%) C
[57%, 67%) D
[0%, 57%) F

Borderline grades: If your final grade is within one-half percentage point of the next higher grade, it will be rounded up to the higher grade if and only if you earned the corresponding higher grade on the final. For example, if your final grade was 76.8% and you got 82 on the final, I’d round this grade up to a B. On the other hand, if you only got 60 on the final, then this 76.8% would be a C.
Other Policies:

Attendance: I'm not the attendance police, but you need to be here every day. I know it, you know it. I will take attendance; if a student drops the course or earns a grade of F or WF, I must provide the university with information about their attendance. Students who arrive late are counted absent. Also please bear in mind that in accordance with university policy, instructors may at their discretion withdraw any student who has been absent from (or hence, late to) 10% of the semester's class meetings.

About homework: When you log on to Webassign, you will see two types of homework assignments.

- Chapter 1 Homework
- Practice Quiz Chapter 1
- Chapter 2 Homework
- Practice Quiz Chapter 2
- Chapter 3 Homework

“Homework” is generally a collection of extremely routine problems culled from the book. If you’re really struggling here, this is a strong signal that you need to go back and study more! Five submissions are allowed, so if you make some silly mistake, it’s not fatal. “Practice Quizzes” are problems created by me which are generally more representative of the types of problems which could appear on exams. Here, three submissions are allowed.

Projects: Projects will generally be a few problems where in-depth analysis and answers are required. In-depth use of the R platform may be indicated, and you may be asked for explanations. If so, you will be graded on the quality of your writing.

Projects are individual works, not group efforts. Just like on an exam, any work you turn in for a project is expected to be your own, obtained without collaboration with other parties. Evidence of unauthorized collaboration on a project may result in a grade of zero on the project or other sanctions.

Grading Rubric: I will grade exam/project problems on a four-point scale as follows:

4---The problem is completely correct, the solution is clearly written, and proper notation and terminology is used.
3---Either the problem is correct but is sloppily written, improper notation/terminology is used, or there is a minor error.
2---Significant (correct) progress is made, but there is not a complete solution present, or a major error has been made.
1---Shows some awareness of correct methods, but little to no work towards an actual solution is present.
0---Speaks for itself.

Make-ups: Due dates for the homework/quizzes are listed in WebAssign; I will not grant extension requests. Projects will generally be due on exam days, and they may not be turned in late. If you miss a mid-term exam, the final exam will be scaled up to count for 45% of your final grade to make up for the missed exam. Using this option is highly inadvisable, as the final is usually perceived to be the most difficult exam in the course. A second missed exam counts as a zero.

In addition, should you genuinely have the worst day of your life on one of the three mid-term exams, you may opt to throw out your score on that exam and have the final count for 45% of your final grade as above. In order to do this, you must notify me in writing (in a signed, word-processed document) of your desire to discard the exam in question no later than 7 calendar days after I've handed back that exam. Note that once you use this option it is irrevocable and thus any subsequent missed exam would count as a zero, so proceed with caution; this policy is not carte blanche to not take an exam seriously.
**Academic Honesty/Exam Procedure:** This is a matter which is taken seriously. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with as specified in the GRU catalog.

Each exam day, I will generate a random seating chart. Outside items other than pencils and your calculator must be put away out of sight during the exam. In particular, devices such as cell phones must be put away out of sight and turned off during exams. If your cell phone makes noise during an exam, you will be subject to a penalty on that exam. I reserve the right to inspect or clear the memory of calculators at my discretion.

**Etiquette:** Common sense and institutional respect for the university are expected. Except in cases of sudden and violent illness, leaving class early (unless arranged in advance for a legitimate academic purpose) may be interpreted as intent to drop the course. Under no circumstances should cell phones or similar nuisances be seen or heard in the classroom; if you are seen using such a device during class, you may be asked to leave and counted absent for that class.

**Guests:** Guests (including children) are not allowed in class.

**Withdrawals:** If you decide for your own inscrutable reasons to drop the course you have the responsibility of making sure you have filled out all the forms and collected all the necessary signatures by semester midterm (October 12). Extended non-attendance will not necessarily cause me to drop you from the class roll.

**Select Comments from Rate my Professor:**

Very sarcastic and somewhat unapproachable but he was helpful anytime I had a question.

I found his grading a little unforgiving partial credit-wise, but you will more than likely get the grade you deserve.

On the first day of class (he) told us that if we were going to (be) late, not to bother coming. And then he said if we had to leave early, we may as well go straight to the registrar and drop.

One day in the middle of our Abstract Algebra class a rabid bear busted through the door and was about to kill us all...He calmly put his marker down and karate chopped the bear in half.
**Course Calendar and Topics:** All dates are approximate except for exam dates.

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<tr>
<td>Basics of Statistics</td>
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<td>Measures of center and variation /</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basics of R</td>
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<td>Statistical Graphics</td>
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<td>One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)</td>
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<td>11/30, 12/2</td>
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Other important dates:

- 9/7: No class (Labor Day)
- 10/12: Semester Midterm (last day to drop with grade of W)
- 10/16: Fall Pause
- 11/25-11/27: Thanksgiving break
- Final exam: Wednesday, 12/9 from 11:00-1:00