Math 120 – Introduction to Statistics   *Course Syllabus – Fall 2005*

Course #1795 (4 units)

Class Hours:
MW: 9:00 – 11:05 am
Room: LA-5 (bldg. 30)

Instructor: <u>Stephen Toner</u>

Web Page: http://www.stevetoner.com

e-mail: **toners@vvc.edu** (Include your name in subject line)

VVC voicemail: 245-4271 ext. 2770
Office: Bldg 30 (Liberal Arts), office "U"

Fall Calendar:

Aug. 29	Classes Begin
Sept. 5	Labor Day Holiday
Nov. 7	Last day to drop with a "W" grade
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day Holiday
Dec. 15	End of Fall semester

Office Hours: Wed: 8:05 - 8:50 am; M,T,W,Th: 11:15 - 11:45 am; and Tues: 2:05 - 3:30 pm

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Required Textbook: *Elementary Statistics, 5/e*, by Bluman. If purchased at the VVC Rams bookstore, this will include the online access to MathZone where some of your online assignments will take place. You can also elect to go to http://www.mathzone.com and purchase online access to the text for $14.00 if you purchased a used textbook.

Our MathZone Section Code is: C61-52-9F1.

Calculators: A calculator will be required for all exams. The TI-83+, TI-84 or TI-89 are the most appropriate for this course. You will be taught how to use the various features, demonstrated primarily on the TI-83+.

Course Description: This course covers basic statistical techniques, including design and analysis for both parametric and non-parametric data. Descriptive statistics included are measures of central tendency and measures of dispersion. Graphical techniques of illustrating data are covered. Probability and its application to inferential statistical procedures is covered. Inferential statistics included are estimation and hypothesis testing, chi-square, analysis of variance and regression. Applications are drawn from a variety of fields.

For those interested, Math 120 Honors, section 1799 (1 unit), will meet Mondays, from7:45 until 8:50 am in this same classroom before this class. You do not need to be a part of the honors program to be a member of the honors section; it is open to everyone. Essentially, it will be an extension of this class, with more of a practical bent. It will be of a seminar format; each week we will conduct experiments that further our understanding of concepts we learn in the "regular" section. The honors section will require you to complete a project involving methods learned in class. 80% of your grade will be from the "regular" Math 20 section and 20% would come from the Honors section to make a 5-unit Honors course, as it would appear on your transcript.

<u>You are required to attend class every day.</u> After **4** hours of absence, you **may be dropped** from this class. It is **<u>your responsibility</u>** to keep your enrollment status current. You risk an "F" if you stop attending without officially withdrawing. Do not bring friends or children to class. **Please turn off any cell phones or pagers during class time (or switch them to silent mode).**

Since this is the first semester I am teaching out of the Bluman text, it is especially important that you are in class regularly, as I am likely to be supplementing extra "tidbits" into the course from the previous text that I have been teaching out of for the past decade.

Homework Policy: Practice is essential. Homework will be assigned "almost daily" and due at the next class meeting. If you are absent, please contact a classmate to get that day's assignment. After the lowest 2 homework scores are dropped, the remaining homework scores will count collectively as one exam.

Grading Policies: Grades will be based on all unit tests, the collective homework exam, and a comprehensive final exam. Any exam not taken will be regarded as a zero. The lowest exam score (including the HW exam and, yes, *possibly* even the final exam!) will be deleted prior to computing the term grade. Students are expected to complete all exams during class on the dates and times scheduled. **No make-up or re-take exams will be given, <u>without exception.</u>**

A **one-page, front-side-only, hand-written, (not photocopied) "cheat sheet"** may be used for each exam. This cheat sheet will be submitted along with the exam, at the completion of the exam.

Grading Scale: A=90% or above;   **B**=80%-89.9%;   **C**=70%-79.9%;   **D**=65%-69.9%;   **F**=below 65%

Tentative Class Schedule

This is my best attempt to create a timeline for this course. In the event we fall behind, you will be given at least a week's notice of any change in test date.

		Sections to be Covered In Class				Sections to be Covered In Class
M	8/29	Introduction, Chapter 1		M	10/24	Review, **Test Chapters 6-7**
W	8/31	Chapter 2		W	10/26	8.1 – 8.3
M	9/5	**No School - Labor Day Holiday**		M	10/31	8.4, 8.5 (skip 8.6, 8.7)
W	9/7	Sample Bias, 3.1, 3.2		W	11/2	9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 9.5 (skip 9.3)
M	9/12	3.3, calculator intro		M	11/7	9.6, review
W	9/14	3.4, 3.5, more calculator		W	11/9	review
M	9/19	review		M	11/14	**Test Chapters 8-9**
W	9/21	**Test Chapters 1-3**		W	11/16	10.1, 10.2, 10.3
M	9/26	Chapter 4a		M	11/20	10.4, 10.5 (skip 10.6)
W	9/28	Chapter 4b		W	11/23	Chapter 11, 12.1 – 12.3
M	10/3	Review, 5.1 – 5.4		M	11/28	Review
W	10/5	5.5a, review		W	11/30	**Test Chapters 10-12**
M	10/10	Review, **Test Chapters 4-5**		M	12/5	13.1 – 13.4
W	10/12	6.1 – 6.5 (skip 6.6)		W	12/7	13.5 – 13.6
M	10/17	7.1 – 7.3		M	12/12	Review, misc. chapter 14 topics
W	10/19	7.4, review (skip 7.5)		W	12/14	<u>**Final Exam**</u>

Attendance Policy: *Class attendance is not a measure of performance or proficiency. Whether a student is just physically present in the class is not a valid basis for grading. Reference Title 5 Section 55002 of the California Code of Regulations: (A) Grading Policy. The course provides for measurement of student performance in terms of stated course objectives and culminates in a formal, permanently recorded grade based upon uniform standards in accordance with section 55758 of this Division. The grade is based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter and the ability to demonstrate that proficiency, at least in part, by means of written expression that may include essays, or, in courses where the curriculum committee deems them to be appropriate, by problem solving exercises or skills demonstrations by students.*