



Course Syllabus: Probability and Statistics

STAT 3573 Section 201
Spring 2026 MWF 9:00-9:50am

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Michelle Knox

Office: BO 122A

Office hours: Monday 11-11:50am and 1-1:50pm, Thursday 9-10:50am, Friday 11-11:50am, and other times by appointment

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Course Description

Descriptive analysis, probability, variability, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, correlation and regression, and nonparametric statistics

Textbook & Instructional Materials

My Lab Statistics associated with the textbook Essentials of Statistics 7e by Triola. (A physical textbook is not required.) You must have a scientific calculator with exponentials and logarithms (such as a TI30XS). Bring your calculator with you to class daily.

Required digital materials for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Students are charged for required course materials on their student account with the Business Office. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must follow the opt-out instructions which are sent to students' official my.msutexas.edu email address after the first day of class. Please contact the MSU Bookstore if you have any questions about the opt-out process.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

The *Tutoring and Academic Support Program (TASP)*, located in Moffett Library, offers free additional tutoring in math as well as other courses. You can find out more about their services by visiting their office or searching *TASP* on the MSU website. Please see their website for specific information on tutoring for STAT 3573.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading

Table 1: Percentage allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percentage of final grade
Quizzes	5%
Homework	4%
Exams (3 at 23% each)	69%
Final Exam	22%
Total Points	100%

Table 2: grading scale for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	at least 90%
B	80% to 89%
C	70% to 79%
D	60% to 69%
F	Less than 60%

Homework

Homework is based on your homework score from My Lab Statistics. There are due dates given within MyLab Statistics for each assignment. Each due date time is the start of class on the day the homework assignment is due. Problems may be attempted as many times as you like, so a perfect homework score should be attainable. Late homework only receives 80% credit—see each assignment for late deadlines. Dr. Knox will drop the lowest 2 homework scores at the end of the semester.

Please note that personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments.

Quizzes

At the end of the semester, your grade will be calculated with and without your quizzes. The higher grade will be given to you. ***Makeup quizzes will not be given for any reason.**

Exams

The dates of the exams are

- Exam One is on Wednesday, February 25, 2026.
- Exam Two is on Monday, March 30, 2026.
- Exam Three is on Wednesday, May 6, 2026.
- Final Exam is on Monday, May 11, 2026, 8:00-10:00am.

If an exam is missed, every effort must be made by the student to notify Dr. Knox in a reasonable amount of time before the exam. It is best to call Dr. Knox rather than email her when you miss an exam, and be sure you leave a call back number with your message.

Assessment of Core Objectives: Samples of students' work from embedded final exam questions will be used in the assessment of critical thinking, communications skills and empirical and quantitative skills.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Any student who is late or who leaves early may be counted as absent. This will result in a zero on any quiz or other assignment for the day. ***Any student who misses seven or more classes may be dropped from the course. Any student who fails to attend a class during the first week of classes may be dropped from the course.**

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to

1. get notes from another student for the day(s) you missed, and
2. see Dr. Knox before the next class for any handouts from the day(s) you missed.

Instructor Class Policies

Please turn cell phones off or place on silent prior to the beginning of class. All cell phones and smart watches must be placed face down on the desk/table in front of you. Use of a cell phone or any other unauthorized electronic device (including earbuds or a smart watch or smart glasses) during class may result in the student being counted absent, and any graded work turned in on that day will receive a grade of zero. Continued violation of this policy may result in a referral to the Dean of Students and/or the student may be withdrawn from the class by the instructor. Using an unauthorized electronic device (such as a cell phone, smart watch, smart glasses, or earbuds) during a test or quiz may result in one of the penalties listed under the academic misconduct policy given in this syllabus.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Northwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Northwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work, not the individual to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Office of Student Conduct

All work that you do that contributes to your course grade must be your own work. Any evidence that you submitted work that is not your own is considered an act of academic dishonesty. An act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university and will result in one of the following academic sanctions:

- Receiving a 0 on the homework assignment, quiz, or exam.
- Receiving a 0 for your entire homework or quiz score.
- Loss of a certain percentage of your overall STAT 3573 grade.
- Receiving an F in STAT 3573.
- Receiving an F in STAT 3573 that will remain permanently on your transcript and within your MSU GPA.

On homework, you may get assistance from others, but you are responsible for understanding what you submit. Copying solutions from online resources or using an app/AI to complete your homework is considered cheating.

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Topics List

We will be covering topics from the following list.

- Statistical and critical thinking
- Exploring, describing, and comparing data
- Probability
- Normal probability distributions
- Estimating parameters and determining sample sizes
- Hypothesis testing (with one and two samples)
- Correlation and Regression
- Goodness of fit