

A.P. STATISTICS

Teacher: Mrs. Spiess

(530) 677-2281 (ext. 2390)

cspiess@eduhd.k12.ca.us

Course Description:

- Advanced Placement Statistics acquaints students with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data.
- This is an AP course. That means it is college-level and the standards are high. Many people think that this is an ‘easy’ AP class. Many students get in the class and wonder what was wrong with those people. The math is not difficult, but you have to actually understand the concepts and be able to interpret results, not just memorize facts.
- It is important to understand that Statistics is not Mathematics, although there are formulas and algebra-like operations. You need to get comfortable with the notion of “how likely” something is rather than “precisely what” it is. It’s a new way of thinking for most of you and may be uncomfortable for some at first. ***The actual calculations are not all that’s required. You need to understand the meaning of your answers and be able to interpret them in context.*** Yes, you are required to use your words in this class!
- Statistics is becoming more prevalent in many college majors and there is a good amount included on the SAT and ACT. Data Science is a popular major recently with a very positive job outlook in the future. Overall, I find it to be a very useful course for many people in the future, and you don’t have to be the ‘top’ math student to do well.

Materials:

- TI - 83 or TI-84 graphing calculator or NUMWORKS (highly recommend!) calculator
- Textbook: The Practice of Statistics 6e updated (**TPS**). The textbook is available online in Achieve (HW platform). A physical textbook will be checked out to students on request.
- Binder with sections for classwork, notes, homework, and quizzes

A.P. Exam

- The Advanced Placement Exam will be given May 7th. The cost of the exam is about \$100, and will be due in the fall.
- All students in the class should intend to take the exam. If for some reason you are thinking about not taking the exam, please discuss this with me before making a final decision.

Honesty/Integrity:

- I take this topic seriously. Cheating will not be tolerated. If you are caught, you will receive a zero for the assignment and it will be reported to your parents and Asst. Principal. If another student is copying your assignment, you will both receive no credit. If you are caught twice in a semester, you will be given a drop F for the class.
- I encourage collaboration on classwork and homework, however I still expect your work to be in your words. Identical assignments will not be accepted.
- Sharing specific information about assessments with other students is also considered cheating and will only serve to reduce any curve that may be applied.

Grading: I will not use weighted grades in AERIES, they will be points based.

Assignments: (Approximately 10% of grade)

- Most assignments from the textbook will be done in Achieve program once we get classes registered.
- Progress Checks and practice assignments in AP Classroom (**APC**).
- Worksheets/Practice AP Questions.
- Classwork activities.
- **Assessments: (Approximately 90% of grade)**
 - Quizzes
 - Unit Tests - Typically there will be an assessment including MC and FR at the end of a chapter (12 chapters in text) or unit (9 units in AP description).
 - Exam - end of each semester
- I use the traditional 10 point grading scale:
 - A 90-100
 - B 80-89
 - C 70-79
 - D 60-69
 - F 0-59
- Because it's an AP class, grades are weighted: A (5.0), B (4.0), and C (3.0). D's are not weighted and are a 1.0.
- I do round grades automatically in AERIES. For example, if you have an 89.5, AERIES will say 'A'. If you have an 89.4, it will say 'B+'. The AERIES APP does not show the rounding.

Homework Policies:

- All work will be posted under weekly plans on [AP Stats Website](#). I will list all work under the weekly plans button. I also attach the weekly agenda to Google Classroom each week.
- Homework is due by the posted due date for full credit. Late work will be accepted for 60% until 8 a.m. the morning of a test. No credit will be given after that time.
- If work is handwritten, I have the following requirements:
 - You first do the assignment to the best of your ability in your words. You can do your work in pen or pencil. I actually prefer pen as it's easier to read. It is okay to collaborate with fellow classmates, but the work should still be in your words. Just because you worked together does not mean your work should be identical.
 - If the answers are posted, then you are expected to correct your own homework in order to earn full credit. Answers are posted on the website next to the assignment. You need to use a **different color pen** to make corrections. Leave the wrong work and add the correct work either off to the side or after it if you don't have enough room.
 - Add any notes to yourself that you need to remember in another color. This will really help in studying for tests.
 - If you just copy the answer, you will get credit for 'checking' but not for 'doing' the homework. I really want to see your effort, where you are struggling, and if you figured it out after looking at the answers or not. It helps guide the next lesson. If you just copy answers, I assume all is well and move on.
 - Please make sure it is obvious what was your work and what is corrections to receive full credit on assignments. It is your responsibility to make this clear or you may lose points.

Communication:

- Students and parents can email me at cspiess@eduhsd.k12.ca.us. I will respond to emails within 48 hours.
- Use Google Classroom and [AP Stats Website](#) to find the weekly plans and links to all other resources and assignments.
- I would not advise leaving voicemails. I may not receive them.

Cell Phones:

- Cell phones will be silenced and placed in the phone caddy during class unless otherwise instructed. Per board policy, the school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronics that students bring to campus.
- Listening, recording, or videotaping of peers, teachers, or visitors to the classroom without prior consent is prohibited. I will be recording our session just for the use of the class members. Notes and solutions are posted on the website with the weekly agenda. There is no reason to take pictures, everything is already posted!
- Consequences:
 - o 1st Offense: The electronic device will be delivered to the office to be securely stored for the remainder of the school day, and the teacher will contact the parent/guardian via phone or email.
 - o 2nd Offense: The electronic device will be delivered to the office to be securely stored for the remainder of the school day. Two detentions will be assigned. The dean or an assistant principal will meet with the student and contact the parent/guardian via phone.
 - o 3rd and subsequent offenses: The electronic device will be delivered to the office to be securely stored for the remainder of the school day. The student will be required to turn in their phone to the office at the beginning of each of at least the next three school days, to be returned at the end of the student's school day. Saturday School will be assigned. The dean or an assistant principal will arrange a conference with the parent to put a plan in place to assist the student in following the electronics policy.