

Dear AP Statistics Students,

Welcome to AP Statistics! I'm so glad you're here and ready to take on this challenge. This course is unlike any math class you've taken before. It is full of real-world questions, interesting problems, and meaningful applications. You will learn how to think critically about data, ask strong questions, and make solid conclusions based on evidence.

Let me be honest from the start. This is a hard class. For many students, it is one of the most challenging courses they take in high school. The content is deep, the thinking is complex, and you will be asked to write, explain, and defend your reasoning in ways that might feel new at first. But it is also one of the most rewarding classes you can take.

Many students who have completed AP Statistics have told me that it helped them figure out what they want to study in college. They discovered a passion for data analysis, public health, psychology, economics, or computer science. Even if you do not know yet what path you want to take, this class will give you tools that apply in almost any field.

Here is what else you can expect:

### **Real-World Relevance**

You will see statistics in action in the news, in sports, in medicine, in social media, and beyond. We will work with real data, explore real issues, and connect what we are learning to the world around us.

### **Collaborative Thinking**

This is not a silent, sit-still kind of class. You will work in groups, talk through problems, share insights, and support each other as we make sense of difficult ideas. Your voice and your thinking matter here.

### **Creative Projects and Investigations**

You will conduct your own surveys, design experiments, and carry out full investigations. Some projects will be serious, others silly, but all of them will deepen your understanding and help you apply what you learn.

### **Preparation for the AP Exam**

We will work steadily to prepare for the AP exam in May. But more importantly, we will focus on becoming clear thinkers, confident writers, and thoughtful analysts of data. These are skills that will help you well beyond high school.

### **A Supportive Community**

I am here to support you, and I expect that you will support one another too. You do not need to be perfect, and you are not expected to know everything right away. What matters is that you stay curious, ask questions, listen to your peers, and keep going.

I am excited to work with you this year. Be ready to be challenged, surprised, and maybe even frustrated sometimes. But you will also be proud of how much you grow.

Kristine Harootunian