

Time & Place	Thursdays 2:00–3:00 pm, 75 Schaeffer Hall
Prerequisite	First-year graduate statistics major
Required Text	None.
Class web page	Some materials will be posted at http://www.stat.uiowa.edu/~rlenth/ALPHA/
Instructor	Russell Lenth — 271 Schaeffer Hall — 335-0814 — russell-lenth@stat.uiowa.edu
Office Hours	Mon & Wed 2:30–3:30 pm, Thu 1:00–2:00 pm; and by appointment
Statistics office	Chair: Professor Luke Tierney — 241 Schaeffer Hall — 335-0712

Course Description

The goal of this course is to orient and build community among first-year graduate statistics students. Included in that is ensuring that you understand the program requirements, become acquainted with the research interests of our faculty, and gain some understanding of statistical literature and communicating statistically.

The class will be very informal and no huge demands will be placed on you to prepare for each week. However, that does not mean you can be passive. You will have an occasional reading or writing assignment, constructed with the above goals in mind.

Here are some of the topics or activities to anticipate:

- Issues that come up in your courses
- The Iowa graduate statistics program
- The statistics profession, its societies, and ethical principles

- Career-related resources
- Libraries, literature databases, literature searches, online journal access
- How to read a statistics paper—and some practice in doing so
- Scholarly writing, literature citations, bibliographies—and related practice
- Interviews of professors in our department on their research interests (you will write about that, too).
- Oral presentations of statistical work
- Possibly other things that seem like good activities

Grading

Grading is S-U. If you come to classes, participate, and complete the few minor assignments that are made, you will receive a grade of “satisfactory.”

College Policies

The following policy and procedural statements have been summarized from the web pages of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, <http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/>, and The University of Iowa Operations Manual, <http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/index.html>.

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Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the

administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Student Academic Handbook, <http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences. (Operations Manual, III.15.2: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/iii/15.htm#152>. Scroll down to k.11.)

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet privately with the course instructor to make particular arrangements. See <http://www.uiowa.edu/~sds/> for more information.

Academic Fraud

Plagiarism and any other activities when students present work that is not their own are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the departmental DEO and to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum. Instructors and DEOs decide on appropriate consequences at the departmental level while the Associate Dean enforces additional consequences at the collegiate level. See the CLAS Academic Fraud section of the Student Academic Handbook, <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/academic-fraud-honor-code>.

CLAS Final Examination Policies

Final exams may be offered only during finals

week. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. Students should not ask their instructor to reschedule a final exam since the College does not permit rescheduling of a final exam once the semester has begun. Questions should be addressed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit the instructor, then the course supervisor, and then the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident. See the CLAS Student Academic Handbook, <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities>.

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment, <http://www.uiowa.edu/~eod/policies/sexual-harassment-guide/index.html>, for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety web site, <http://police.uiowa.edu/stay-informed/emergency-communication/>.