STAT W1211.001: INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS (Fall 2007)

- Instructor: Li Song  
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  Day/Time: 9:10 – 10:25 am, Monday and Wednesday, 903 SSW  
  Office hours: 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Thursday, 10th floor SSW

- Teaching Assistant: Hugh Robert Arnold  
  Email: hra2101@columbia.edu  
  Office hours: 12:00 am – 2:00 pm, Monday, 901 SSW

- Prerequisites: Calculus.

- Course Objectives: This is an introductory course to Statistics. The goal is for you to attain a solid grasp of the fundamentals of the subject in Probability and Statistics. This course will cover descriptive statistics, basic probability and distribution of random variables, estimation and hypothesis tests for means and proportions, and analysis of count data.


- Method of Evaluation:  
  Problem sets will be assigned every Wednesday, and due on the next Wednesday. Late homework will NOT be accepted without prior permission.

  You are welcome to work on them in small groups, as long as you write up your answers yourself and make sure that you understand what you are writing. Direct copying of another student’s solution will result in grade of zero for both students.

  There will be quizzes (close book close notes) assigned throughout the term. I will inform you the time in advance.

  There will be a midterm and a final exam. They will be close book close notes, but you are permitted to bring one 8.5x11 sheet of paper with formulas or other notes on both sides to the midterm and final exam. A calculator is also allowed to both exams.

  There will be no makeup exams under any circumstances. If you miss midterm
for a legitimately documented reason, such as illness confirmed with a written excuse, the weights of your missed midterm will be added on the final exam. If you can not attend the final for a legitimately verifiable reason, you must file a petition form to General Studies Committee on Academic Standing (CAS) to receive an incomplete. Otherwise, if you miss the final, you will receive a zero for the exam. Note that social/vacation plans are not legitimate reasons for missing an exam.

The grading for the course will be, approximately: 20% problem sets, 20% quiz, 20% midterm, and 40% final exam.