**Welcome to Math 110 Introduction to Statistics**

**Math 110 Section:**

**Class meetings:**

**Location: MA-**

**Instructor:**

**email:**

**My lab hours:**

**Office hours:**

**Office Location: MA-**

**Welcome to Math 110!**

Math 110 transfers to CSU and UC for quantitative reasoning general education credit.

**What will I learn in Math 110?**

In Math 110 you learn to read and understand statistical information in the world around us, and you will learn to make decisions based on data.

When you successfully complete Math 110, you will be able to do the following:

* *Statistical Literacy:* Read and critique simple statistics-based studies in order to make an informed judgment about whether the statistical presentation or argument is valid.
* *Data Production:* Analyze the design of a study to determine if the conclusions drawn from the study are valid or if the study is biased
* *Data Exploration and Representation:* Investigate patterns in data to answer questions and compare data sets to look for a relationship between variables.
* *Modeling and Inference:* Test a hypothesis about a population or make an estimate using the methods of statistical inference.
* *The Role of Probability in Inference:* Explain how variability and probability are connected to statistical inference.

**Course materials for Math 110:**

We have worked hard to lower costs for students. Instead of a textbook, we will use free online materials and a packet of activities that you will purchase from the LMC bookstore.

Here is what you will need:

* A packet of activities from the bookstore
* A 6-month StatCrunch license purchased for about $13 <https://www.statcrunch.com/get-access/>
* Access to Canvas (free)

**Description of Assignments/Grading:**

**Class work or lab work:**

* In-Class Group Activities = 10%
* In-Class Group Quizzes and/or Unit Projects and/or Labs = 20%

**Homework in Canvas:**

* Canvas Exercises: Quizzes & Discussion Boards = 15%
* Canvas Checkpoint Quizzes = 5%

**Exams and Final Assessments:**

* Exams (two exams) = 20%
* Final Project = 10%
* Final Exam = 20%

Grades are calculated as a weighted average, with the usual percentage marks for each letter grade. In other words, an A is 90% or better; a B is 80% or higher but less than 90%; a C is 70% or higher but less than 80%. A grade of C is required for transfer credit or credit for the LMC Associates Degree.

**More detail on some assignments and how they are graded**

In-Class Work: Activities, Group Quizzes, Unit Projects

During class time for Math 110, you will often be working in groups. Class work is one of the easiest ways to earn points to bolster your overall grade. You must be in class to earn points for in-class group work.

Homework in Canvas: Reading, Discussions, “Did I Get This” quizzes, Checkpoint quizzes

In Canvas there are four types of assignments embedded into the modules.



* Reading with examples: When working in Canvas, you must do each page in order. You cannot skip around. This encourages you to read the material before jumping into the graded exercises.
* *Did I Get This* quizzes: There are many short *Did I Get This* quizzes embedded in the Canvas modules. These are low stakes opportunities to assess your understanding as you work through the material. You can take each *Did I Get This* quiz three times and revise your answers based on the feedback provided. Your highest score is the one that counts.
* Discussion items: Some challenging problems are set up as online discussions. A module contains anywhere from 0-3 discussions. Groups are randomly assigned for each module, so you will usually work with the same small group for one to two weeks.

To earn full credit, post your answer on time and provide high quality written feedback to at least two people in your group before the discussion is set to close. You will find more details about discussions linked to each discussion board item in Canvas.

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* *Checkpoint* quizzes: Checkpoint quizzes occur at the end of each module and at the end of each Unit. You have three attempts on Checkpoints, only the highest score counts. Use the feedback to improve your score.

Written Lab Assignments

Labs are assignments that help you synthesize what you have learned. You should do these assignments in the math lab and work with your peers as part of the two lab hours by arrangement each week for Math 110.

Exams

There will two exams. Group quizzes and/or Unit Projects, as well as Canvas Unit Checkpoints, will prepare you for exams.

Final Assessments: Final exam and final project

The final exam is comprehensive. The final project is a group project. You will work with a group of your classmates to investigate a topic of interest to the group. You will collect data, analyze it, and draw inferences based on the data. Your group will be required to present the group’s findings to the class and to submit a written report.

**Late work and attendance**

Good attendance is important! Many assignments require you to be in class to receive credit, such as group activities, group quizzes, and Unit projects. If you miss a group activity, group quiz or Unit project, you will miss the opportunity to work with your peers in class on that assignment, which puts you at a real disadvantage. Therefore, good attendance is important to your learning and to your grade.

If you must miss class: If you are sick or must miss class for some other reason, you may submit at most two in-class assignments after the deadline without penalty. This includes class activities, Group Quizzes and Group Projects. Late work must be turned in no later than one week after the deadline. I will also drop your two lowest grades from class activity category and your lowest grade in the Group Quizzes/Group Project category before I calculate your course grade.

If you miss a deadline for a Canvas assignment, contact me so that I can reopen the assignment for you. This applies to discussion boards, Did I Get This Quizzes, and Checkpoint quizzes. I will reopen at most four Canvas assignments for you during the semester. I will also drop your two lowest grades in the Canvas Exercises/Quizzes & Discussion Boards category and your two lowest Checkpoint grades before I calculate your course grade.

If you are not able to take an exam on the scheduled date, you must contact me ahead of time to schedule a make-up exam. If you do not show up for an exam without contacting me ahead of time, you will receive a zero on the exam.

No late work is accepted for the final project.

**Religious Holidays:**  
Reasonable accommodations will be made for you to observe religious holidays when such observances require you to be absent from class activities. It is your responsibility to inform me during the first two weeks of class, in writing, about such holidays so that we can make a plan.

**Strategies for Success**

**View struggle as a natural part of learning, don’t worry, work hard.**

Productive struggle is an important part of learning. Numerous studies in educational psychology show that productive struggle leads to deeper learning. If you are not struggling to some degree, you are probably not learning the material deeply enough to understand it or remember it. But struggling (even when productive) can be frustrating and uncomfortable, so don’t worry if something does not make sense the first time you hear it or read it. Persist, ask questions, and use the feedback provided.

**Make the most of the material in Canvas.**What are ways to encourage yourself to productively struggle with the material in Canvas? Here are some suggestions:

* Take notes, but do NOT just copy things from Canvas. Instead, when you finish a page, force yourself to write down the important ideas that you just covered WITHOUT looking back at the material. Include an interesting or memorable example, because often the context of an example will help you remember the concept that is illustrated by the example. Then review the page and adjust your notes if necessary. There are many studies that show that forcing yourself to try to remember material that you just covered will lead to better understanding and recall. This forces your mind to process and make sense of stuff.
* Make the most of your opportunities to retake quizzes in Canvas. if you miss a question, carefully read the feedback and try again. If you are just guessing and you luck out and get the answer right, see if you can determine why the other answer options are incorrect. Then read through the feedback for the wrong answers to check your understanding.

**Get help when you need it!**

It sounds simple but can be hard to do, especially if you are feeling frustrated or confused or running up against a deadline. If at some point you feel like giving up, or you begin to just click through the online exercises without actively engaging, or you are tempted to copy someone else’s work, **ask for help as soon as possible**.

*Getting help from your instructor:* The easiest way to get help from me is come to my office hours or to visit the math lab when I am on duty. I have office hours, which are listed in this syllabus. I am also available by appointment.

*Getting help in one of the LMC math labs:* There is a math lab at the main campus in Pittsburg and in the Brentwood Center. Both labs offer free tutoring assistance for LMC students, in addition to study rooms where you can work with classmates on lab assignments. Check the LMC website for current hours. (http://www.losmedanos.edu/Groups/Math/web/lab.asp).

*Getting help from classmates:* This semester you will work together both in-class and out-of-class with your peers. Working with others has advantages. It can keep you motivated. In addition, talking can build deeper understanding and help ideas stick. However, there is a difference between working with someone else and letting somebody else do your work for you. Make sure that your collaboration with your peers is supporting your learning and not undermining it.

**Accommodation for disabilities**

Students with documented learning and/or physical disabilities may receive reasonable classroom and/or testing accommodations. These arrangements need to be made with me in the first two weeks of the semester or as soon as the documentation of disability is available from DSPS (LMC’s Disabled Students Programs and Services).

**Dropping**

In college, students have the option of dropping courses. If you want to drop this class, please contact

me to discuss your options. We might be able to devise a plan together that will help you

to continue and succeed.

If you decide to drop this class, pay attention to the deadlines. See the LMC website for specific drop dates.

* To receive a refund, drop within the first two weeks of class.
* To avoid a “W” on your transcript, drop on or before the “W” deadline, usually at the

end of the 3rd week of classes.

* To avoid a grade on your transcript, drop before the final drop deadline, which is about

a month before the end of the semester. In this case a W (for “withdraw”) appears

on your transcript. A few W’s are OK but too many will place you on academic probation,

which can have serious consequences. For more information see the LMC College

Catalog, under Probation and Dismissal.

LMC policies state that instructors can drop students for failure to attend class in the following

circumstances:

* Failure to attend the first class meeting;
* Absence from two consecutive weeks of lab or lecture;
* At any point when the instructor concludes that the absences have irretrievably

affected the student’s progress.

**Student Code of Conduct**

It is your responsibility to read and follow the Student Code of Conduct. The Student Code of Conduct is a statement of the Contra Costa Community College District’s expectations regarding student standards of conduct, both academic and nonacademic. Students are expected to obey all laws and District policies and regulations. See <http://www.losmedanos.edu/studentcodeofconduct/>

**The difference between collaborating and cheating**

Obviously, there is a difference between collaboration and cheating. Working with your peers (collaboration) can support your learning, particularly when the tasks are difficult. However, when you are graded individually on work that is the product of collaboration with your peers, it is important that you are clear on the distinction between collaboration and cheating (plagiarism). Plagiarism is defined as “the practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own.” All the work that you submit must be yours and yours alone. Do not put your name on other students’ work. If you copy someone’s idea or a portion of his/her work, give him/her credit by citing that person by name. It is also your responsibility to ensure that other students are not copying from you (e.g., two identical tests will be considered both students' responsibility).

There are many reasons why people cheat. Sometimes people cheat because they feel they are not capable of doing the work, or they are panicked and frustrated by the difficulty of the material, or they have not left enough time to complete the assignment because of other obligations. Whatever the reason, it is important to resist the temptation to cheat. Instead of cheating, talk to me or to an advisor/counselor about issues that are affecting your learning. Together we can devise a plan to support your success.

Cheating is taken very seriously by me and by Los Medanos College. According to LMC policy as stated in the LMC catalog, “dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college, is grounds for disciplinary action and suspension.” If you are caught cheating, you will be asked to leave that class period and you will receive a zero grade on the assignment. You may also be referred for disciplinary action to the dean.