

MTH 1342: Elementary Statistics Methods

Sul Ross State University

Fall 2026

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Course Description	MTH 1342 provides an introduction to the fundamental concepts and methods of statistics. Topics include sampling and data collection, descriptive statistics, probability, discrete and continuous random variables, probability distributions, the normal distribution, sampling distributions, the Central Limit Theorem, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. Emphasis is placed on interpreting statistical results, applying appropriate statistical methods, and solving problems involving real-world data.
TEKS	Information on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills can be found on the TEA website: http://www.tea.state.tx.us
Marketable Skills	(1) Logical and analytical skills. (2) Statistical problem-solving using probabilistic methods. (3) Use of technology and statistical tools for data analysis and visualization. (4) Effective communication and interpretation of statistical results.
Class Meetings	Tuesday, Thursday: 11:00 AM-12:15 PM (Face-to-Face , RGC Room: 0A119)
Required Text	Illowsky, Barbara, & Dean, Susan, Introductory Statistics, ISBN 1938168208.
Office Hours	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM; or by appointment.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend class in person in their classroom of registration unless permission is given for extenuating circumstances. You will be held responsible for all material covered in class or the reading assignments. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain all notes, assignments, and announcements from someone else in the class. Make-up exams will be given only in the event of an emergency, in which case written justification and/or documentation must be provided and approved.

Communication

I will post course documents, reminders, announcements, and assignments on the Blackboard system. You will also submit homework on Blackboard. I may also occasionally send announcements via e-mail. You should make sure you know how to access and use these tools. You are welcome to e-mail, telephone, or text me. However, if you choose to contact me, please make sure to state your name at the beginning of any message. I am here to help you! Ask questions in class, call me, e-mail me, text me, or come to my office. If you don't communicate with me, then I can't help you.

Grading Policy

Your grades will be weighted as follows:

Participation	10%
Online Quiz	20%
Homework/Report	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%

A student who averages at least 90% will receive an A; at least 80% will receive at least a B; at least 70% will receive at least a C; at least 60% will receive at least a D.

Participation

Your participation grade will be assigned depending on your class attendance and participation in class activities. Simply put, if you always come to class, seem like you're trying to pay attention, take notes, and take part in class activities, then you will get full credit.

Homework/Report

Homework will be assigned for each section that we cover in the text. You must complete each homework assignment before the next class period. This will allow you to make the most of our time together. If you have a question, ask about it. If you don't understand the homework, you are not ready to take the exam. To succeed in this course, you must do all the homework assignments on time! The amount of work for any college class is generally calculated as 3 hours of outside work for each hour in class. That means you should expect to spend as much as 9 hours each week on outside work on this course. We will always discuss the homework in class. You should come to class prepared: make sure to have your textbook and suitable writing materials with you. You may need to submit a report on a selected topic at the end of this semester (before the final exam).

Exams

There will be one midterm exam. The tentative date is October 8, 2026. This is subject to change. You will be notified of a change at least one week in advance. Make-up exams will be given only in the event of an emergency, in which case written justification and/or documentation must be provided and approved. The comprehensive final exam will take place at the time scheduled by the university, during the final exam period at the end of the semester. Official time and date to be announced once the university publishes the final exam schedule.

Subject Outline

Week	Sections	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1	1.1–1.2	Definitions of statistics, probability, population, sample, parameter, statistic, and variable; data; qualitative and quantitative data	Discrete and continuous data; sampling methods
Week 2	1.3	Frequency, frequency tables, levels of measurement, and graphical representation of data	Experimental design, observational studies, ethics
Week 3	2.1–2.2	Stem-and-leaf plots, line graphs, bar graphs, and histograms	Frequency polygons, time-series graphs, and applications
Week 4	2.3–2.7	Measures of location, percentiles, quartiles, five-number summary, and box plots	Mean, median, mode, skewness, range, variance, standard deviation;
Week 5	3.1–3.2	Probability terminology, sample spaces, and events	Independent and mutually exclusive events
Week 6	3.3–3.5	Addition and multiplication rules of probability	Contingency tables, tree diagrams, Venn diagrams, counting rules;
Week 7		October 6, 2026 Review	October 8, 2026 Midterm Exam
Week 8	4.1–4.2	Probability distribution functions and discrete random variables	Mean/expected value and standard deviation
Week 9	4.3–4.4	Binomial distribution	Geometric distribution and applications
Week 10	5.1–5.2	Continuous random variables, continuous probability functions, and probability density functions	Uniform distribution

Week	Sections	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 11	5.3	Exponential distribution	Applications of continuous random variables
Week 12	6.1–6.2	Normal distribution, standard normal distribution, and z-scores	Probabilities using the normal distribution
Week 13	7.1–7.3	Sampling distributions and Central Limit Theorem for sample means	CLT for sums and applications
Week 14	8.1–8.2	Confidence intervals for one population mean, σ known	Population mean with σ unknown; Student's t -distribution
Week 15	9.1–9.6	Hypothesis testing, null and alternative hypotheses, test statistic, and p-value	Hypothesis testing for one population mean, conclusions; Review Unit 7
Week 16		Review	Final Exam

QEP Mapped Course

Course Design: Communication Infused

To be successful in college and beyond, many sources (e.g., Morreale & Pearson, 2008) indicate that communication competencies are essential. Sul Ross recognizes that the current generation of undergraduate university students should receive training to navigate a global world as competent communicators in various contexts and channels of communication.

Through our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) called Compass, Sul Ross aims to equip you to navigate excellence in the 21st century by developing your communication skills across multiple courses. This mathematics course is designed to enhance your communication skills. Therefore, this course has the following QEP Student Learning Outcome:

QEP Student Learning Outcome

The student will create works that exhibit skill in prepared and purposeful communication (written, oral, or visual).

University Statements

Distance Education Statement: *Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.*

SRSU Disabilities Services: *Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. RGC students seeking accessibility services should contact Paulette Harris, Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Dean, at 830-279-3023 or email pharris@sulross.edu. Ms. Harris's office is at 2623 Garner Field Road, Uvalde, TX 78801 (this is the mailing address, too).*

University Libraries: *The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. SRSU RGC students may request InterLibrary Loans (ILLs) and book check outs from the Sul Ross Library to be picked up at the SWTJC library that is most convenient. Access requires your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123). The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Library is also available on each campus for your physical use of the space or checking out books. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may use online resources available through SWTJC website, library.swtjc.edu. These libraries serve as pickup locations for your ILL or Document Delivery or book requests; to do so, choose the appropriate pick-up location when requesting materials from the Alpine campus.*