

CALVIN and HOBBS



Congratulations on choosing to take AP Statistics!! As an advanced placement class, you can expect that AP Stats will be fast paced and challenging, but also very real-world orientated. We will be using the TI-83 Graphing Calculator in class, as a calculator with Statistical capabilities is required on the AP exam.

The study of Statistics is unlike any Math class that you have taken before. Advanced Placement Statistics acquaints students with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will frequently work on projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real world data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate links and connections with actual events.

In order to better prepare you for the exciting year ahead, the following is a summer assignment:

I. Read and outline Chapter One from your textbook (pages 2-30).

You will have a quiz on the terminology contained in Chapter One on THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.

II. Outside Reading:

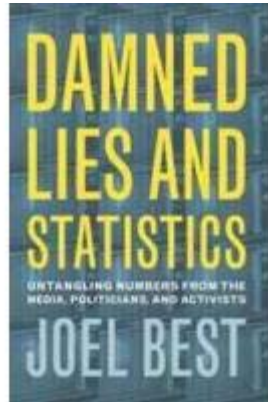
1. Go to: <http://www.janda.org/c10/Lectures/topic05/GallupFAQ.htm>

Read the information and answer the following questions. I will collect your responses on the first day of class.

5. How do computers help interviewers conduct phone interviews?

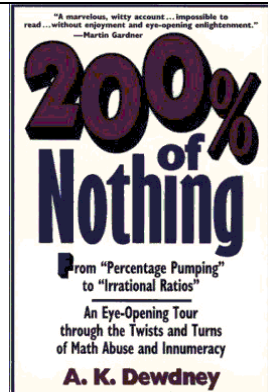
6. Why does Gallup try to word questions the same way year after year when researching the same topic?

Choose one of the following books and write a brief (2 – 3 pages) reaction paper: (to be collected on the first day of class)



Title: Damned Lies and Statistics, J. Best, University of California Press, 2001

Description: Damned Lies and Statistics by Joel Best is a great book for understanding bad statistics and how they come to be. This looks like a good book for students to read before taking a statistics course because, as amazon.com puts it, "Understanding this book does not require sophisticated mathematical knowledge." and "Best discusses the most basic and most easily understood forms of statistic, such as percentages, averages, and rates." This book is a good introduction to statistics for someone with limited experience in the field.



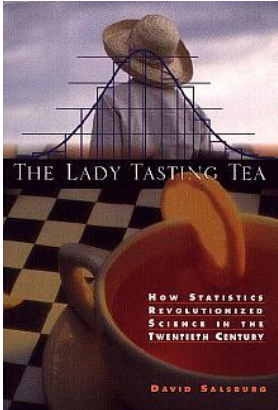
Title: 200% of Nothing, A.K. Dewdney, John Wiley and Sons, 1993

Description: 200% of Nothing by A.K. Dewdney is a book that helps the reader understand the ways in which people are deceived by statistics. Dewdney uses real world examples to prove his points in, as amazon.com puts it, "clear and disarming". This book sounds like a good book for students interested in applications of statistics in everyday life.



Title: Statistics You Can't Trust, Stephen Kent Campbell, Steve Campbell, and Mark V. Hall (illustrator), 1998

Description: Statistics You Can't Trust by Stephen Kent Campbell, Steve Campbell, and Mark V. Hall is a very well written user-friendly guide to how one can see through the statistics around us. As amazon.com puts it, "A nontechnical, cartoon enhanced, tour of misuses of

	<p>statistical information in everyday life. I would recommend this book for the student who has never taken statistics and wants to know the basics that they can apply to their daily life.</p>
	<p>Title: <u>The Lady Tasting Tea</u>, David Salsburg, 2001</p> <p>Description: <u>The Lady Tasting Tea</u> by David Salsburg is a book that describes the link between science and statistics. This book sounds good for statistics students interested in science and want to see how they relate. I have not seen this book, but from its description it sounds like it is, while interesting, a little heavier reading than the other books here.</p>

If you have a question or any difficulty with this assignment, you may e-mail me at: cmccarthy@glenridge.org

Good luck and have a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer vacation!!!