

Stat 130 Introduction to Statistical Reasoning Exam 1 Preparation

When and where?

The first exam will be given on Wednesday, April 19. You'll have 50 (at the very most 55) minutes to take the exam, so don't be late!

What's covered?

The exam covers chapters 1-9 of your text, dealing with Producing Data. The outlines from days 1-13 accompany this material.

What should I bring?

You should definitely bring your text, your handouts and notes, and a calculator. You may also bring your quizzes and solutions to quizzes.

What if I've missed something?

You can download class outlines and quiz solutions from the web, and you can see me if you have not picked up a quiz.

What kinds of questions should I expect?

There will be a mixture of questions types. There will be many short answer questions (e.g., identify explanatory and response variables, distinguish observational study vs. experiment). Some questions will call for calculations (e.g., quick method of finding margin-of-error, percentage changes). Many questions will ask you to interpret results or explain some phenomenon or design a study; these will often be presented in the context of an actual study. In general, the questions should be of similar types to what you've answered in class examples, quizzes, and homework questions.

How should I study?

- Read the review summary on pages 169-171 of your text for a concise but detailed listing of the important ideas that we have discussed.
- Re-read the "Statistics in Summary" sections at the end of each chapter.
- Look over class outlines and examples to make sure that you remember what the main points were.
- Review your homework assignments and solutions, quizzes and solutions.
- Look through and try to answer the review questions on pages 171-175 of your text.
- Answer additional questions from the end of the chapters of your text.
- Ask questions during class today!
- Ask questions in office hours (3-4:30pm) or via e-mail.

Any other advice?

- Prepare and organize a sheet or two of well-organized notes.
- Don't study less because it's an open-book exam!
- Plan not to use your book or notes too much.
- Focus on understanding, not memorization.
- Arrive on time, perhaps several minutes early.
- Read questions carefully.
- Pay attention to the context, both when reading questions and when writing answers.
- Write and explain your answers very clearly.
- Be cognizant of time constraint.
- Don't elaborate excessively.