

Schedule

Course Outline & Readings

Unit	Topic	STA	PNA	MtM 1e	MtM 2e
I	Descriptive statistics	1.2; 1.3; 1.4	1, 4, 5, 6	1, 2	1, 2
II	Statistical relationships	2.1–2.7	14, 15	3	3, 4
III	Producing data	3.1–3.4	2, 3	4	9, 10
IV	Probability	4.1–4.5	7, 8	5	7
	Midterm Exam				
V	Sampling distributions	5.1–5.3	7, 8	6	8
VI	Inference	6.1–6.4	10	7	5
VII	Hypothesis Testing	7.1–7.2	11	8, 9	6
VIII	Simple linear regression	10.1	17	10	11.1
IX*	Less simple regression	11.1–11.2	20	11, 12	11.2
	Final Exam				

* If time allows.

Book Abbreviations

You can use any book you wish (although I encourage you to make sure its style suits you):

- **STA** Moore, David S., George P. McCabe, Bruce A. Craig. *Introduction to the Practice of Statistics*. W.H. Freeman and Company. Any edition 6th or newer is sufficient.
- **PNA** Meier, Kenneth, Jeffery Brudney, and John Bohte. *Applied Statistics for Public and Nonprofit Administration*. Cengage. Any recent edition is fine
- **MtM** Favero, Nathan. *Statistics Minus the Math: An Introduction for Social Sciences* (<https://minusthemath.com>). Note that MtM comes in two online editions, the first edition (1e) and the second edition (2e). 2e is the better book, but still not finalized, so if the typos bother you, read 1e. Just make sure that you're clear which edition you're reading.

Class Schedule

We do not have a formal daily schedule for topics - we move through them in the order prescribed above, and they take as much time as they take to get through. That said, there are a few dates you should be aware of:

- **August 25:** First Day of Class
- **September 24:** No Class (*Reilly Away*)
- **October 8:** Midterm Review Session (*Time TBA*)
- **October 13:** No Class (*Fall Break*)
- **October 15:** Midterm Exam (*In Class*)
- **October 23:** Practicum 1 Due
- **November 24 & 26:** No Class (*Thanksgiving Break*)
- **December 8:** Last Day of Class
- **December 11:** Practicum 2 Due
- **TBD:** Final Exam (*Pending Central Schedule*)

A Word on Reading

Reading in a statistics course is different from a substantive course. You should generally keep up with readings, but you are not expected to thoroughly digest them by the day we cover them in class. The textbooks serve as an additional resource to lectures and help you understand the material more effectively. They may also cover details we don't emphasize in class (and vice versa).

Each book has its strengths:

- **STA** *Introduction to the Practice of Statistics*: traditional, more math-heavy, detailed.
- **PNA** *Applied Statistics for Public and Nonprofit Administration*: focused on applied public administration, still detailed. Sequenced differently.
- **MtM** *Minus the Math*: conceptual, common-language, intuition-focused, but light on probability and detail.

You may use any as your primary reference. If you need more depth, consult **STA** or **PNA**. If you want lighter or more intuitive explanations, lean on **MtM**. **STA** is the "default" text for the class - the one the syllabus was built around. **PNA** has lots of good examples from public administration, but the content sequencing is more intuitive in **STA**, so we follow that order.

We will cover the above material in sequence, with particular readings recommended for each day announced in class (and in slides) ahead of time where appropriate. In general, if you need to prioritize, make sure to focus on your weekly assignment first, and readings second.