

# WELCOME TO ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS!

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- This handout (and lunch meeting if you are attending) is intended to give you a quick (think: Sparks Notes) introduction to the class.
- I will attempt to cover what students ask me about the most. If I fail to cover a topic or answer a question, please email: [rigoe@seq.org](mailto:rigoe@seq.org)

## **TOPIC 1: Is there summer homework?**

- Yes, it can be found at: <https://bit.ly/WHSAPStatsSummer20>  
**NOTE:** Capitalization matters!!
- Since I have probably not had any of you as a teacher, this homework is a survey where I ask you to tell me about yourself.
- The only piece of information that is not specific to you is I ask you to look up the AP acceptance policy of at least one of your top choice colleges.
- SINCE I do not know you, please take some time – 30 minutes or so – to provide me with detailed answers. My honest opinion is that this summer homework benefits both of us: 1. You will not have an assignment to worry about over the summer, and 2. I will start the year knowing the class and you more.
- The sooner this homework is completed, the better for me. (I can use answers to help guide examples that I will use in class.)

## **TOPIC 2: Who is this Mr. Igoe character anyway.**

- Next year will be my 16<sup>th</sup> year teaching as well as my 16<sup>th</sup> year teaching AP Statistics. PLEASE NOTE: teacher assignments can change.
- Statistics is a passion of mine – I earned my Masters degree in Statistics specifically because I enjoyed teaching this class and wanted to be the most informed teacher that I could be for you.
- I am a little kooky – ask anyone. You will get used to this (hopefully).
- I check my email compulsively. Email [rigoe@seq.org](mailto:rigoe@seq.org) if you or your parents need to contact me this summer.

## **TOPIC 3: Is the class easy and how much homework will I have?**

- NO AP course should be easy and you should not expect that this course would be easy. Besides, it is (for most) a fourth year math class!
- Unlike most other math classes you have taken which are algebraic in nature, this course focuses more on communication and analysis. All problems are word problems that have a context and most answers will involve writing at least one full and complete sentence.
- Homework will be a mix of problem sets, scoring other students work, online applets and explorations, as well as reading the textbook. The homework will not come directly from the text.

#### **TOPIC 4: Who is successful in this class?**

- The most successful students:
  - Can form small study groups and work in them productively. This class is so communication focused that you need to be able to describe to someone what you know and that understanding should be CRYSTAL clear from what you say.
  - Attempt each and every homework when it is assigned. Attempt each and every investigation when it is assigned. When asked to provide feedback to another student, provide the detailed feedback that you would like to receive.
  - If a homework assignment does not take you one hour, use the additional time to student and review. This is a college level class, you will not be told to study in college.
  - Come to class with specific questions. Those questions indicate how you approached and attempted a problem.
  - Are OK stumbling in a class at the beginning. This class will be different, give yourself a break.
  - If you are struggling? Let me know and do not wait.

#### **TOPIC 5: Why AP Statistics?**

- Outside of what I mention about college below, here is my main reason and why I love this subject so much. Watch the news for one week. It is highly unusual that you will not hear a report that mentions a medical study, includes polling data, or involves someone supporting a position that makes reference to statistics. Of every math class that you take in high school, this may be the one that you see applied the most in your lifetime. You will almost NEVER need to ask, “When am I going to use this?”
- MANY majors that are not STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) typically require a statistics course. This includes majors such as business, nursing, communication, social sciences, psychology, etc. I recommend that you choose one of your top schools and see if the courses required for the major include a statistics course.
- Outside of major classes, statistics often meets the requirements of a core class – for my college statistics met the Critical Thinking core requirement for graduation. **ASK** current college students whether or not they have had to take statistics! Many have.
- Taking this course in high school provides you with an entire year to learn the content with high school support – before school reviews, I am in my classroom at lunch, etc.
- For students that are not traditionally strong in algebraic math classes, this course may provide you with an opportunity to excel

#### **SOME FINAL THOUGHTS: If a question is not answered, please email RIGOE@SEQ.ORG – I check it all summer.**

- This class is my baby – I spend the summer reworking how I teach it – I really want to make sure that you end in June (2021) with as much of an appreciation of statistics as I have.
- On a side note to that, I have had many former students complete minors in statistics and even one that dropped out of medical school to enter a Masters degree in Biostatistics. Their reasoning? They really enjoyed this class and felt it was useful. I teared up.