MTH 2070-05 – Elementary Statistics
Spring 2009 – Traditional Schedule
Instructor: Prof. Robert P. Conti, Sr.
Office Hours: By appointment and before and after class, where possible.
Office: MST Room 50B  569-3272 (Leave message with secretary)
Snow Line: 569-3500
E-mail: rconti@my.msmc.edu. My email address will be the primary source of contact this semester – students will be expected to have an email account.
Website: http://faculty.msmc.edu/rconti.
All data sets can be found in the following directory: P:\rconti\SPSS Files. Class notes will be posted in Moodle - these can be printed if you desire a hard copy.
Moodle Login: https://campusweb.msmc.edu/moodle190/login/index.php

Course Description:
This course introduces the student to the fundamental concepts of applied statistics, including descriptive statistics, frequency distributions, sampling distributions, hypothesis testing, estimation, correlation and regression. Emphasis is given to applications in the managerial, business and behavioral sciences. Students will also be using SPSS, a statistical software package for the social sciences, as well as Moodle, a course management system (CMS), and will have access to both of these in class.

Pre-requisites: Satisfactory score on math placement test or MTH 0150 (Algebra).
Experience with PC software packages, including Excel, is recommended.


Also, there’s an optional SPSS software package (Student Version 16.0) which can be ordered from the bookstore. This would primarily be for students who wish to use SPSS on their home computer. Full-time students are expected to use the SPSS package available on campus. If you wish to order a package, please email me during the first two weeks of class.

Additional requirements: any scientific calculator, preferably the TI-30 (graphing calculator OK).
Learning Outcomes (Goals): At the conclusion of this course, the student will:

- Understand the methods of descriptive statistics (e.g., measures of central tendency and dispersion), as well as the methods of inferential statistics (relating randomly drawn samples to a population).
- Describe some of the uses and abuses of statistics.
- Apply results of measures of central tendency and dispersion for data analysis.
- Create data sets via SPSS as well as perform its statistical functions.
- Interpret results of data presented or queried.
- Evaluate associations between numerical variables, including correlation and regression analysis.

Course requirements:

Tests (3) 60% - Three full period tests will be held on the following dates: 2/26, 4/2, and 5/5. Part of the test will be assigned in advance (take-home) and submitted to Moodle by the scheduled deadline. The other part will be in class online via Moodle (these must be done in the classroom). Test grades will not be dropped or curved, so it is extremely important that you do your best.

Moodle Assignments (3) 40% - these include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Reading Quizzes** – these will be assigned before a chapter is discussed (12 quizzes @ 20 points each).
- **Individual and Group Assignments/Projects** – There will be three of these during the semester (100 points each). Elluminate (an online classroom environment) may be assigned to facilitate group discussion.
- **Discussion Postings** – each student submits an original post plus two response posts (Forum section of Moodle). Expect to have at least one per week (20 points each – 10 for original post; 5 for each of the two response posts).
- **Homework** – General Exercises (GE) or SPSS Exercises (20 points each).

Each Moodle assignment will be assigned a point value. The total points earned by the student divided by the total number of possible points multiplied by 100% will be the formula for this component of the grade.

Penalties for late submissions: No credit will be given for Moodle assignments or projects submitted past the deadline. **No exceptions, extensions, excuses or exemptions!**
**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students should login to Moodle on a daily basis for new assignments, discussion posts, and course news. In accordance with the registrar's rules, four consecutive unexplained absences will be reported to the Registrar. An additional "cut" may be assessed if a student fails to login to the Moodle course page for five or more consecutive school days. Additionally, if you have four or more unexcused absences (consecutive or not), you will be ineligible to receive an I grade for the course. Excessive absences (and lateness) can be detrimental to the final grade. As in any mathematics course, what is learned in class is based on what was previously covered before. Make-ups will only be given for excused absences; please plan accordingly. Excused absences include: death in the family, illness, business trip (appropriate documentation will be required for excused absences); all other absences will be considered unexcused. I have the final decision on granting excused absences.

If more than one class is cancelled due to snow or other reasons, a subsequent missed class will have to be made up with Moodle assignments or online sessions via Elluminate. NYSED regulations state that a total of 2,250 minutes of contact time is required for a three credit course.

**Grading Scale:**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>88-92</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-64</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
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**New Policy on Academic Honesty, Effective January 5, 2009:**

[http://my.msmc.edu/alt_index.cfm?Content=policy_on_academic_h.html](http://my.msmc.edu/alt_index.cfm?Content=policy_on_academic_h.html)

“Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man, but he ends up with a mouth full of gravel.’ Proverbs 20:17

The mid-term grade will consist of the weighted average of the first test (60%) and the aggregate of the Moodle assignments due prior to the mid-semester date (March 16) (40%).