**CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS.**

**Instructor:** Dr. Bronlyn Wassink  
Email: wassinkb@math.msu.edu  
Office Location: C136 Wells Hall  
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 1-2pm in C136 Wells Hall

**Recitation Leader:** Younggon Bae  
Email: baeyoun3@msu.edu  
Office Location: NK223 (North Kedzie)  
Office Hours: Monday, 2-4pm in NK223

**Recitation Leader:** Kate Appenzeller  
Email: appenze2@msu.edu  
Office Location: NK223 (North Kedzie)  
Office Hours: Tuesday, 12-2pm in NK223

**CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS.**

**Lecture:** Tuesdays 3-4:20pm, 402 Computer Center  
**Recitation:**  
Section 001 – Thursdays 4:10-5:30pm, A122 Wells Hall  
Section 002 – Thursdays 4:10-5:30pm, A228 Wells Hall  
Section 003 – Thursdays 12:40-2:00pm, A148 Plant & Soil Science Bldg  
Section 004 – Thursdays 2:40-4:00pm, 128 Erickson Hall  
Section 005 – Thursdays 2:40-4:00pm, A130 Wells Hall  
Section 006 – Thursdays 2:40-4:00pm, A124 Wells Hall  
Section 007 – Thursdays 12:40-2:00pm, A330 Wells Hall

**MATH LEARNING CENTER.**
The Math Learning Center provides free tutoring support for most undergraduate math classes at MSU. Support for MTH 101 and MTH 102 is offered at the Wells Hall branch of the MLC. Check the MLC website (https://www.math.msu.edu/mlc/) for specific hours that support for MTH 101 and 102 is offered, because MTH 101/102 tutors are not available during all hours that the MLC is open. MLC information will additionally be available on D2L.
**Course Goals & Objectives.**

The purpose of this course is to provide you with opportunities to work with your classmates and your instructor to analyze quantitative information that is applicable to your lived experience. We will learn appropriate math, statistics, and technology skills and use them as a lens to explore complex real-life situations. Several of the main content-specific learning goals are listed below. These learning objectives will be addressed throughout the course, and are incorporated into each context-based module.

1. Make predictions about quantitative situations and check predictions against data in order to determine reasonableness, identify alternatives, and make choices.
2. Critically analyze quantitative information and recognize that mathematical and statistical methods have limits.
3. Interpret mathematical models of social issues and public policy in the form of formulas, graphs, tables, and images, and draw inferences from them.
4. Represent mathematical information in different ways including: visually, numerically, verbally, and symbolically.
5. Use arithmetic, algebraic, geometric and statistical methods to understand problems.
6. Understanding percentages, mean, median, percentiles, and absolute vs. relative measures;
7. Recognizing when a graph seen in the media is misleading;
8. Understanding statistical graphs, such as scatter plots with trend lines, line graphs, and bar graphs with error bars;
9. Understanding correlation vs causation;
10. Understanding linear regression, as well as other models, and exploring examples of models whose trends should not be extrapolated.
11. Understanding margins of error and confidence intervals for a mean or proportion, and using these confidence intervals to draw conclusions, as well as recognizing when biases may be present in data;
12. Reasoning with probability, including performing and interpreting a simulation, expected value, assessing risk, and Bayes’ Rule;

**Course Materials.**

1. You are required to have the Poll Everywhere Higher-Ed Student Plan (https://www.polleverywhere.com/plans/higher-ed).
2. In order to use Poll Everywhere, you will need to bring a cell phone that can send text messages or a laptop, tablet, or smartphone that can access the Poll Everywhere.
3. You are required to bring a scientific calculator to class.
4. All of the remaining materials necessary for the course will be available on D2L and through the internet; there is no textbook for this course.
5. Computer access will be necessary outside of the classroom, in accordance with MSU’s student computer policy. Ideally everyone who can bring a laptop (or other device to access the internet) will do so on both Tuesday and Thursday classes.

**Grade Distribution.**

The course will be organized into four modules, a course project, and a final exam according to the distribution that follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1: The World and Its People</th>
<th>Module 2: The Media</th>
<th>Module 3: Health and Risk</th>
<th>Course Project</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Grade.**

Your grade will be determined based on meeting criteria for each assignment, so no curve will be used for calculating grades. A Module Grading Scheme will be available on D2L at the beginning of each module, which will provide detailed information about how each assignment factors into your grade for that module. Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>100%-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>90%-85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>85%-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>80%-75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>75%-70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>70%-65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>65%-60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Multiple Assessment Descriptions.**

Your learning will be assessed in a variety of ways, representative of the variety of ways that we encounter, interpret, synthesize, and present quantitative information in the world.

1. Attendance & Active Participation – Attendance is mandatory. You will not receive a grade for attendance, but your attendance is crucial to your success in the course. Many assignments will be completed collaboratively, in-class, which provides a unique learning opportunity that cannot be replicated as an individual make-up assignment. See the Policy on Missed Classes below.
2. Classroom Activities – You will work on group activities during most classes and will turn in the results of that work. Because these assignments will involve in-class work with your peers, missed in-class activities cannot be made up.
3. Online Homework – Online homework assignments will be assigned regularly, as part of each module. Typically, they will involve either a reading or video and associated questions through D2L.
4. Course Project – You will complete a course project through the entirety of the course. In each of the modules, there will be a checkpoint part of the project due. Details will be provided on the Course Project Description on D2L.
5. **Poll Everywhere** - You will respond to a series of multiple choice and open-ended questions on Poll Everywhere. Poll Everywhere will be used primarily in Tuesday lectures, and missed questions can not be made up.

6. **Quizzes and Exam** – You will complete several short quizzes and a final exam to demonstrate your ability to think about problems critically using quantitative reasoning skills. Quizzes will be announced in-class at least one week in advance. The Final Exam is on Monday, December 12, 3:00-5:00pm in 402 Computer Center.

**Policy on Missed Classes.**

We expect that you will attend all course meetings; you are responsible for all of the material covered in class and in the homework. Some assignments will be completed during class, in groups, so you will be unable to earn those points if you miss class. Excused absences will be given only in rare circumstances. An excused absence must be approved by Dr. Wassink. In order for an excused absence to be considered, proper documentation (doctor’s note, court summons, religious holidays, etc.) must be provided to Dr. Wassink prior to the missed class. The Recitation Leaders can not grant an excused absence. In the case of medical emergencies, it may not be possible to provide documentation in advance, so email both the lecturer and your recitation leader as soon as possible and attach documentation. A doctor’s note must include language indicating that you are/were unable to attend class; documentation that only provides evidence of treatment is generally insufficient. If you miss an assignment due to an excused absence, Dr. Wassink will provide a make-up assignment. Any student who has had three excused absences must schedule a meeting with Dr. Wassink to discuss their progress in the course, and if a late drop from the course would be appropriate.

**Grief Absences.**

According to university policy, we will accommodate the bereavement process of a student who has lost a family member or who is experiencing emotional distress from a similar tragedy so that the student is not academically disadvantaged in their classes or other academic work (e.g. research). If you experience such a tragedy during the semester, contact the lecturer and your recitation leader as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. You also need to notify the Associate Dean of your college, according to the policy:

...it is the responsibility of the student to: a) notify the Associate Dean or designee of their college of the need for a grief absence in a timely manner, but no later than one week from the student’s initial knowledge of the situation, b) provide appropriate verification of the grief absence as specified by the Associate Dean, and c) complete all missed work as determined in consultation with the instructor.

The Grief Policy is described in detail at: https://msu.edu/unit/ombud/classroom-policies/index.html#GriefAbsencePolicy.
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.
(from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, RCPD): Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD, or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a “VISA” form. Your VISA form must be presented to both Dr. Wassink and your Recitation Leader a minimum of two weeks prior to the date that the accommodations are required. In some cases, Dr. Wassink may require you to schedule a meeting with her in order to discuss how your accommodation will fit into the structure of MTH 101.

DROPS AND ADDS.
The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course with a 100% refund and no grade reported is September 26. If you have either added or dropped this course, you should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify that you have added or dropped this course.

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:
The University’s policy concerning academic integrity is covered in the Spartan Life booklet, under General Student Regulations. For more information about this and other academic integrity issues, please visit: https://msu.edu/~ombud/academic-integrity/student-faq.html. The Spartan Code of Honor academic pledge:
“As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”

IMPORTANT DATES:
August 31: MSU classes begin. Students should go to the scheduled Monday classes on this first day (does not apply to MTH 101)
September 1: First day of MTH 101 (the first class will be with your small class leader)
September 7: Open adds end (8:00pm)
September 8: Students to go Undergraduate office, A212 Wells Hall, for Mathematics enrollment changes (late adds, section changes, drop to a lower level course)
September 14: Last day to late add a course or change sections within a course.

September 26: Last day to drop a course or change sections within a course.
October 19: Middle of semester; Last day to drop with no grade reported (8:00pm)
December 12: Final Exam; 3-5pm; 402 Computer Center
December 16: Class ends