Instructor: Professor Vince Melfi, A421 Wells Hall
Email: melfi@msu.edu
Phone: 432–3384
Office hours: After lectures in the lecture hall and by appointment

TAs:
- Don DeGroat; A508 Wells Hall; degroatd@stt.msu.edu; 432–3343
- Fang Li; A444 Wells Hall; lifang@stt.msu.edu; 353–7201
- Xiang Li; A511 Wells Hall; lixiang1@stt.msu.edu; 432–3343

Meetings: There are three lectures a week, from 12:40 to 1:30 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in Room 108 EBH. Each student is also enrolled in one of the following computer lab sections, all meeting in B100E Wells Hall:

Section 1: Monday, 3:00–4:50 PM (Fang Li)
Section 2: Tuesday, 8:00–9:50 AM (Xiang Li)
Section 3: Tuesday, 10:20 AM–12:10 PM (Fang Li)
Section 4: Tuesday, 12:40–2:30 PM (Xiang Li)
Section 5: Tuesday, 3:00–4:50 PM (Don DeGroat)
Section 6: Tuesday, 5:00–6:50 PM (Don DeGroat)

Textbook: The text for STT 201 is the 2nd edition of *Exploring Statistics* by Larry Kitchens. We will cover most of the material in Chapters 2 through 11 this semester, and will follow the text closely.

Questions: There are many ways to get answers to your questions. Always feel free to ask questions during lecture and lab sessions. Professor Melfi will be available in the lecture hall after each lecture to answer questions. Outside lecture and lab, the best way to get help understanding the course material including exercises and computer labs is to go to the STT Help Room, which is located in Room C100 Wells Hall. The Help Room will be staffed by STT 201 TAs for approximately 10 hours per week. This is a very useful resource! The help room hours for STT 201 will be announced as soon as possible. Your TAs will also announce office hours to be held in their own offices in the A wing of Wells Hall. Of course you are welcome to send your professor an email to set up an appointment.

Web site: Point your browser to [http://www.stt.msu.edu/~melfi](http://www.stt.msu.edu/~melfi) and follow the link to the STT 201 web site. It will contain lecture notes, reading assignments, quiz solutions, and announcements.

Disclaimer: Professor Melfi reserves the right to make changes and additions that he considers academically advisable to any part of this syllabus.
Course Policies and Grading Information

Calculators: A very basic calculator will be useful for homework, quizzes, and the exam.

Reading: I will announce reading assignments in class. You will learn a lot more from lecture if you keep up with readings in the text.

Exercises: Before we begin to cover material from a chapter of the text, I will pass out a list of exercises for you to solve. Feel free to work with others on the exercises; you often learn more by working with others. Exercises will not be collected, but solving these is one of the most important things you can do to learn the course material. Exercises may be added to the list; if so, they will be announced in lecture and on the course web site. The exercises for Chapters 2 and 3 are included below.

Quizzes: There will be a short multiple choice quiz at the end of lecture every Wednesday this semester, with the exception of August 29 (the first Wednesday of class) and November 21 (the Wednesday before Thanksgiving). This will yield 13 quiz grades with 5 points possible on each. The quizzes will be cumulative, and will be open book and open note.

Computer Labs: Computer Labs will meet each week except the week of Thanksgiving. In the labs you will learn to use the statistical package MINITAB both to aid your understanding of important concepts in the course and to perform complicated statistical analyses quickly and painlessly. Material from these labs will be covered on the lecture quizzes and exam.

During each lab session you will receive a project. The computer work for the project can be completed during the 110 minutes in the lab. Sometimes you may need to finish the project report outside of the lab. Lab projects can be turned in to your TA or professor either at the end of lab or any time before the end of lecture on the Friday following lab for those with Monday or Tuesday labs, or before the end of lecture on the Monday following lab for those with Thursday labs. No late projects will be accepted. There are a total of 13 lab projects with 5 points possible on each.

Note that there will be a lab the first week of classes! Labs will be open the second week of classes for students who would like extra guidance or practice with MINITAB, but you need not attend these labs, since there will be no new project.

Exam: There will be a 2 hour comprehensive, multiple choice exam on Wednesday, December 12 from 12:45–2:45 PM. The location will be announced. This exam will have 30 possible points and will be open book and notes.

Grading: Your 10 best quiz grades, your 10 best lab project grades, and your exam grade will be kept, yielding a total of $50 + 50 + 30 = 130$ possible points for the course; from this you can easily compute your course percentage. I expect the grading scale to be

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Quiz Grade</th>
<th>Lab Project Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90–100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>67–72.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85–89.9%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>61–66.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79–84.9%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>55–60.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73–78.9%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>0–54.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that there will be no make-ups for quizzes or lab projects. This shouldn’t present a problem, since the lowest 3 of each will be dropped.
**Attendance and courtesy:** I recognize that students have busy lives and may have to miss some lectures. There is no explicit penalty for missing lecture, but you are responsible for learning the course material that you missed. Lecture notes on the web or a friend’s notes are good places to start. Also, if you must arrive late or leave a lecture early, please do so in a way that does not disrupt the lecture for others. In particular, choose a seat near to the exit.

**Important Dates:** The Registrar’s Office maintains a list of important dates for the semester at [http://www.esp.msu.edu/DOCSYSdates.asp?Semester=FS01](http://www.esp.msu.edu/DOCSYSdates.asp?Semester=FS01). Familiarize yourself with these to avoid any surprises. For your convenience I have listed a few of these below:

- **Aug. 27:** $100 late enrollment fee begins.
- **Aug. 31:** Last day to change to or from CR/NC or Visitor for Fall 2001.
- **Sep. 20:** End of tuition refund for Fall 2001.
- **Oct. 16:** Last day for withdrawal or dropping courses with no grade reported.
- **Nov. 16:** Final date to initiate withdrawal from the University for Fall 2001
- **Dec. 12:** Course exam, 12:45–2:45 PM. Location to be announced.

**Exercises:** Here are the text exercises from Chapters 2 and 3.

- **Chapter 2:** 1, 5, 8, 22, 23, 24, 31, 32, 49, 52, 58, 59, 66, 67, 75, 78, 81, 85, 105, 106, 107.
- **Chapter 3:** 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 14, 20, 26, 27a, 43, 44, 57, 58.