**ACC Statistics
Spring 2016**

**Course Overview**

Math 500 will look at the topics of statistics and probability. Understanding these concepts is very helpful to a thinking individual in the modern world from interpreting advertisements to political statements.. It is expected that students have proficiently passed algebra 1, algebra 2 and geometry.

The books for Math 500 are Elementary Statistics: A Step by Step Approach (8th Ed) by Bluman. This book will rarely be required in class (you will be informed if you will need it in advance), but is necessary for homework and other practice. The book comes with an insert with some useful tables. While I can provide a copy if needed, it is helpful to purchase a book that has this already. The outside reading for this course is The Visual Display of Quantitative Information by Tufte. This book will give students an insight into the thought process of creating visual representations of data.

Students are **required** to bring a graphing calculator to class daily. Recommended calculators include the TI-83, TI-84 (any edition), or the TI-nSpire (with an 84 keypad). Although we will learn the formulas to compute information by hand, modern uses of statistics rely heavily on machine computation and the use of such devices will be mirrored in this course. It will also be helpful to have access to a computer with a spreadsheet application (Numbers on MacOS, Microsoft’s Excel, or Google’s Sheets) for completion of assignments.

**Teaching Methods**

Students will often be asked to explain their reasoning in solving problems. This could be verbally or written in sentence form. Proper vocabulary and understanding of concepts are stressed in these explanations.

Lecture notes will drive much of the course. There will also be some inquiry learning where curious students will be asked to discover some new paths for solutions.

**Student Evaluation**

A student’s grade will be determined by total points. All of the grade will come from quizzes and tests. Although homework is not graded, it is *essential* for understanding and success in the course.

Refer to the Retake Policy sheet for more information.

**Materials Needed**

Students will need:

* Notebook for writing information
* Writing utensils
* TI-83 or TI-84 calculator