

Stat 101: Lecture 1

What is Statistics?

- Statistics is a way of reasoning about the world around us.
- Statistics helps us use data to make informed decisions.

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Statistics in a Word

- Statistics is about ...variation.
 - The world is full of data.
 - Data exhibit variation.
 - Recognizing, displaying and quantifying variation in data can help us make sense of the world.
 - Try to explain variation.

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Statistics in the News

- Decrease in gonorrhea rates credited to high beer taxes.
- Study links suicide, country music.
- Pro wrestling tied to dating violence.

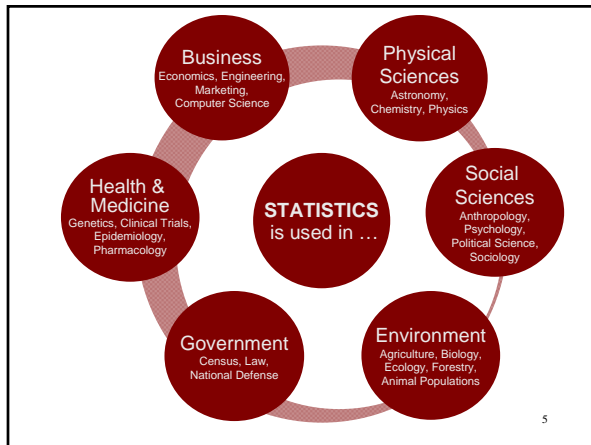
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Statistics in the News

- TM lessens brain's pain response.
- Caffeine reduces skin cancer risks, study shows.

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How can I do well in this class?

- Attend all lectures and pay attention.
- Complete all assignments.
- Go over answers to assignments.
- READ and STUDY the textbook.
- Come to office hours with questions.
- Form study groups with fellow students.
- Make sure you can use a calculator.
- Make sure you can do basic algebra.

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