

MATH 125 Section 1 CRN 20959
MWF 9 AM in room Robert Bell 449
Quantitative Reasoning
Spring 2026

Instructor: Holly Dickin

Office: RB 329

Student Hours: Tuesdays 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM and Thursdays 12 – 1 PM and 2 – 3 PM or by appointment

Note: Any adjustments to student hours will be posted in advance as announcements in Canvas.

Email: hldickin@bsu.edu

Leave phone messages at: 765-285-3637

Text and Materials:

- Our text is *Viewing Life Mathematically: A Pathway to Quantitative Literacy*, 2nd ed, Denley, 2023, (Hawkes).
- A good scientific calculator is required. The TI-30XS MultiView is recommended. Cell phones and other personal devices may not be used during class. Students will regularly need to bring laptops.

This course is part of our course material delivery program, Ball State First Day. The bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical books and any digital materials will be integrated into Canvas for this course. Students who do not want to participate in the First Day program may choose to opt out.

Course Description & Rationale: MATH 125 satisfies the university core curriculum requirement for mathematics. This course covers aspects of personal finance, probability, and statistics. We will use a variety of fundamental mathematical skills to analyze situations not typically covered in a traditional sequence of mathematics courses. We will develop problem-solving skills enabling students to be capable and productive leaders and citizens.

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes: Students are expected to master the manipulation of mathematical symbols and gain a new perspective on mathematical thinking, with the hope that they will recognize situations where these skills may be applied. These tools are used to provide a new way of looking at today's world at a collegiate level. Among other things, students will learn the following:

- How to extract useful mathematical information from data presented in numerical or graphical form.
- How to present data in graphs and tables to communicate information, both by hand and using technology.
- How to use technology to gain knowledge and solve real-world problems.
- How to interpret and draw conclusions from data, both for a single variable and for two variables.
- How to communicate effectively in writing, using proper English and correct mathematical terminology, in the context of finances and statistics.

Class Structure: Class time will be primarily devoted to group work and guided problem solving. Complete academic integrity is expected. Consistent and punctual attendance is essential and expected. Students should notify the instructor once they anticipate being absent for any reason (e.g., funeral) or as soon as possible after the absence begins (e.g., unexpected injury or illness). Documentation may be requested. More detail on BSU Attendance Policies can be found [here](#).

Hawkes Homework and Canvas Quizzes: Most work will be submitted through the online Hawkes system and Canvas; all assignments will be graded. Assignments must be submitted by 11:59 pm on the appropriate day. Hawkes will assess a 10% penalty each day that the assignment is submitted late for the first four days. Hawkes Certify assignments submitted after that will be worth 60% of their normal value. Quizzes will not be accepted late, but the 2 lowest Canvas quizzes will be dropped.

Attendance/Participation and In-Class Assignments: Students are expected to attend all classes. In-class and group assignments cannot be made up. However, the two lowest in-class assignments will be dropped. The Data Analysis project cannot be dropped. A variety of attendance/participation points will be available throughout the semester. These assignments/activities again cannot be made up however the two lowest attendance/participation assignments will be dropped.

Exams: There will be 3 exams. The third will be the final exam and will cover the Statistics Unit. The final exam is **Friday, May 1, 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM**. Exams can be made up at the discretion of the instructor and only if the student makes arrangements no later than the day of the exam.

Course Grade: Hawkes Certify homework assignments will contribute 20% of a student’s overall grade. Canvas quizzes will account for 5%. Attendance/Participation will account for 5%. In-class assignments, group work, additional assignments, and discussion boards will account for 10%. Each of the 3 exams will contribute 20%. Students will earn a letter grade based on their course percentage (x as a percentage) determined by the following standard scale:

Letter Grade	Course Percentage
A	$93 \leq x$
A-	$90 \leq x < 93$
B+	$87 \leq x < 90$
B	$83 \leq x < 87$
B-	$80 \leq x < 83$
C+	$77 \leq x < 80$

Letter Grade	Course Percentage
C	$73 \leq x < 77$
C-	$70 \leq x < 73$
D+	$67 \leq x < 70$
D	$63 \leq x < 67$
D-	$60 \leq x < 63$
F	$0 \leq x < 60$

Student Support Services: Students can benefit from free tutoring and coaching at the [Learning Center](#) (tutoring can be done through virtual Zoom appointments or in-person appointments at NQ 350), writing practice and feedback at the [Writing Center](#), mental health assistance at the [Counseling Center](#), and assistance with basic needs at the [Basic Needs Hub](#).

University Statement: We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor of record as soon as possible. Ball State's [Disability Services](#) office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Freedom of Expression

In this course, we are committed to fostering a learning environment that values intellectual diversity, encourages free expression, and promotes open inquiry. As members of the Ball State Community, we treat each person in the Ball State community with civility, courtesy, compassion, and dignity and respect and learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions. Please review Ball State University’s [Statement on Freedom of Expression](#), the resources on Ball State’s [Freedom of Expression webpage](#), and [Ball State’s Beneficence Pledge](#).

Title IX

Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit bsu.edu/titleix or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at titleix@bsu.edu.

As your instructor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment. This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

What happens after I report? The Title IX Coordinator will email the person who experienced sexual harassment (complainant) and invite them to schedule a meeting. If the complainant **chooses** to meet with the Title IX Coordinator,

- Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures (e.g., counseling, extensions on deadlines, course-related adjustments, changes to work or class schedules, and/or referrals to campus offices), review the policy, and discuss options to move forward.
- If a complaint is filed by the complainant or the University, an investigation will begin following University policy.

Student Academic Ethics Policy

Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Academic dishonesty and other forms of academic misconduct threaten the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and will not be tolerated. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity. Visit the VPAA's [academic integrity website](#) (Students tab) for resources on understanding academic integrity, citing sources properly, and avoiding inadvertent academic dishonesty. To learn about BSU's academic integrity expectations and students' rights, please read the University [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).

Academic integrity violations include giving or receiving an unfair academic advantage (cheating), presenting someone else's ideas or work as your own (plagiarism), and falsifying academic records. Unless otherwise indicated, you must work independently by yourself. Check with me if you are unsure whether something constitutes academic dishonesty. Examples of academic integrity violations include but are not limited to:

- Using resources not authorized by the faculty member (including devices, AI tools, hidden notes, and open books)
- Using commercial study websites to find answers to graded assignments (Chegg, Course Hero, StudyPool, OneClass, etc.).
- Without the instructor's written permission, giving away, buying, or selling graded assignments class notes, exams, study guides, or other course materials to other students or to third-party vendors (Course Hero, Chegg, 24HourAnswers, etc.).
- Working with another person on any assignment other than authorized group projects.
- Sharing or allowing others to access your files, whether done with permission or not.
- Reusing your own work from another semester, course, or section.
- Sharing answers with others during exams (passing notes, texting, whispering, gesturing)
- Discussing exam questions and answers with students who have not taken the exam.
- Soliciting others to complete work for you.

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

All work conducted and/or submitted in this course should reflect your own ideas and demonstrate your current knowledge, abilities, and skills. Therefore, generative AI should not be used to complete any portion of the assignment(s). Doing so constitutes a violation of Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).

University Grade Appeal Policy

If you believe you received a final course grade that does not reflect your performance due to fairness or a procedural issue, you have the right to file an appeal within 5 school days after final grades are posted by the Office of the Registrar. Review the [University Grade Appeal Policy and Process](#).

Important Dates: There is no class on MLK Day, Monday, January 19, 2026. Spring Break is March 2-6. The course withdrawal period ends Thursday, March 19, 2026. Before this date, students can elect to receive a "W" by completing and submitting the proper form online. The instructor's permission is not required. For details see <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/registrar/registration-activities/withdraw-from-classes> as well as Degree Requirements and Time Limits in the current Undergraduate Catalog OR Withdrawal Procedures in the current graduate catalog.