

MATH 623 - Summer 2026

CRN 36599

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Drew Lazar

Office: RB 434

Phone: 765-285-8672

Email: dmlazar@bsu.edu

Online Office Hours: Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., and by appointment

Zoom meeting room: [Dr. Lazar's Zoom meeting room](#)

Book

Discovering Statistics and Data: Software plus eBook, 3rd edition, by James S. Hawkes, 2018.

Prerequisites

At least one year of teaching experience, or permission of the department chairperson.

Course Objectives

Students will develop an appreciation of the concepts of probability and randomness, and will understand how statisticians and scientists use data to make inferences and decisions. Students will be introduced to the key concepts of probability and of descriptive and inferential statistics.

Course Content

The following topics will be covered: descriptive methods such as measures of location and dispersion, basic probability, the normal distribution, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, simple linear regression, correlation, and simulation. Students will:

1. Display, analyze, and interpret sample data using the techniques of exploratory data analysis.
2. Explore probability in random events.
3. Represent relationships between variables with scatter plots, correlation, and simple linear regression.

4. Demonstrate appropriate use of technological tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data.

Homework

Homework assignments will be given once or twice a week and will cover sections from the book. Understanding the homework solutions is crucial to your success in this course. We will use the Hawkes Learning lesson system.

Exams

There will be two timed online exams given throughout the semester on the Hawkes Learning site. They will cover sections done on previous homework assignments.

Final Project

The final project will cover material from the entire course. It will be due June 12.

Make-up Policy

Make-up exams will not be given unless you have a very serious reason for missing the exam. You must also contact me beforehand to get approval.

Final Grade

Your grade will be determined as follows.

Assessment	Percentage
Homework	37.5%
Exams	37.5%
Final	25%

The grading scale is as follows.

Percent Range	Letter Grade
92 or above	A
90 to less than 92	A-

Percent Range	Letter Grade
87 to less than 90	B+
83 to less than 87	B
80 to less than 83	B-
75 to less than 80	C+
72 to less than 75	C
70 to less than 72	C-
67 to less than 70	D+
65 to less than 67	D
62 to less than 65	D-
Less than 62	F

Your lowest score from all the homework sections will be dropped in computing your final grade.

Academic Honesty

Ball State's [Academic Ethics Policy](#) sets out the standards for academic integrity. Violating this policy can lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the university. See also the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Course Withdrawal

The course withdrawal period ends Monday, June 1, 2026. Before this date, students can elect to receive a W for the course by completing and submitting the proper form. The instructor's permission is not required. For details, see [Withdraw from Classes](#), as well as Degree Requirements and Time Limits in the current Undergraduate Catalog, or Withdrawal Procedures in the current graduate catalog.

Diversity Statement

Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. 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 as expressed in our [Beneficence Pledge](#) and through university resources at the [Multicultural Center](#).

Disability Statement

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation 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.

Important Dates

Event	Date
Exam 1	Wednesday, May 27, 2026
Withdrawal Deadline	Monday, June 1, 2026
Exam 2	Friday, June 12, 2026
Final Project Due	Friday, June 12, 2026