Preliminaries for Math 5

Class Meetings: Class meets regularly from 10:00am to 11:50am, Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is an X-hour for this class from 3:00pm to 3:50pm every Wednesday which we will use some weeks, so be sure to be available at those times.

Instructors: Your instructors are Jim Baumgartner (102 Choate House) and Albin Jones (1E Bradley). Feel free to drop by and visit us whenever it is convenient for you. We are accessible by Blitz to make appointments.

Text: The text is the CD-ROM *ActivStats* by Paul Velleman (a former Dartmouth student). This text is intended for statistics courses; Math 5 uses statistics but is not a statistics course. *Please work through the first two chapters and note how homework and projects are used by the CD.*

Homework: You will be assigned homework due roughly every two weeks. This will be from the CD-ROM, from the Freedman book (*Statistics*, by Freedman, Pisani and Purvis, which is on reserve for you in the reserve book room), and occasionally from other sources. Please **do not wait until the last possible minute to do your homework**. You will discover it is hard to find sources, and we will not listen to any complaining or excuses.

Journals: You are expected to keep a journal about the course, to be turned in to us once every two weeks. This can include many sorts of materials: thoughts about issues raised in the course, observations about occurrences in the course, even ideas which are related to but distinctly separate from the course. In general, creativity and thoughtfulness in your journal will be highly prized.

Grading: A grade will be assigned based on your homework and journals, and on the final project to be presented at the Chance Fair at the end of the course. We will take into account participation in class discussions. Attendance counts.

Rules for the project: A project may be on almost any subject, but it is a good idea to check it with your instructors before you commit too much time to it. A project may be joint with one other person provided it is clear what work is done by whom. All projects must have significant mathematical content. (This is a math course, after all.)

Computers: You may find it useful often to peruse the New York Times on the web. The regular Times can be found at `http://www.nytimes.com` (you will have to sign up for this, but it is free). Or, you can try `http://nytimesfax.com` for the short edition that calls itself the TimesFax. For that you will need an application that can read PDF files. The most easily available such application is called the Adobe Acrobat Reader; it's free. First-year students already have it, and everyone else can get it from `PUBLIC`. It is called `PDFViewer`, and is in the folder `Plug-ins & Utils` in the same location as Netscape. If you don't have a CD-player on your machine, you may use one of the machines in Room 5 Bradley, but please control the sound so it doesn't bother others.

Honor system: You are expected to do your own work. Collaboration with others is fine, but the final writeups for homework, journals, and projects should be your own. Any significant help should be acknowledged.