

Read one of these books. Type a two-page, double-spaced paper on whatever one or two things gave you an "A-Ha!" as you read the book. I am asking you to do this for three reasons: (1) Being able to communicate in writing is fundamental to the use of statistics, (2) Any of these books will give you perspective in how powerful statistics are, and (3) They're all great books and can be read on the beach. The books can be obtained through the library or purchased on-line. (Brief reviews to help you select a book are available online.). You may choose to read and write about a second book for extra-credit. This paper is due the first week of school, August 3 - 7, 2015.

Damned Lies and Statistics: Untangling Numbers from the Media, Politicians, and Activists, J. Best, University of California Press, 2001.

More Damned Lies and Statistics: How Numbers Confuse Public Issues, J. Best, University of California Press, 2004.

Freakonomics A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything, S. D. Levitt & S. J. Dubner, HarperCollins, 2005.

How to Lie with Statistics, D. Huff, W. W. Norton, 1952.

The Lady Tasting Tea, D. Salsburg, Owl Books, 2001.

A Mathematician Reads the Newspaper, J. A. Paulos, Basic Books, 1995.

200% of Nothing, A. K. Dewdney, John Wiley and Sons, 1993.

Fooled by Randomness: The Hidden Role of Chance in Life and in the Markets, N. Taleb, Thomson, 2004

The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable, N. Taleb, Thomson, 2007

Bringing Down the House: How Six Students Took Vegas for Millions, B. Mezrich (book on which *Breaking Vegas* is based), Free Press, 2002

Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game, M. Lewis, Norton, 2003

Tainted Truth: The Manipulation of Fact In America, C. Crossen

The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic—and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World, S. Johnson

A Cartoon Guide to Statistics. L. Gonick & W. Smith. Harper, 1993

The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference, M. Gladwell, Little, Brown & Co., 2002

Calculated Risks: How to Know When Numbers Deceive You, G. Gigerenzer, Simon and Schuster, 2002

News & Numbers: A Guide to Reporting Statistical Claims and Controversies in Health and Other Fields, V. Cohn

Envisioning Information. Edward R. Tufte. Graphics Press, 1990

How to Think About Statistics, 6th Edition. J. L. Phillips, Jr., W. H. Freeman, 2000

The Visual Display of Quantitative Information. Edward R. Tufte. Graphics Press, 2001

Ageing With Grace: What the Nun Study Teaches Us About Leading Longer, Healthier, and More Meaningful Lives, D. Snowden, Bantam Press, 2002

Randomness, D. Bennett, Harvard University Press, 1998

Outliers: The Story of Success, M. Gladwell, Little, Brown & Co., 2008

The Manga Guide to Statistics, by Shin Takahashi, No Starch Press, 2008
Head First Statistics, Dawn Griffiths, O'Reilly Media, 2008
How to Think Like a Freak - Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner, William Morrow and Company, 2014
David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling the Giant - Malcolm Gladwell, Little Brown & Company, 2013
The Signal and the Noise: Why Most Predictions Fail-but Some Don't - Nate Silver, Penguin Group, 2012
The Drunkard's Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives - Leonard Mlodinow, Vintage Books, 2008
The Improbability Principle: Why Coincidences, Miracles, and Rare Events Happen Every Day - David J. Hand, MacMillan/Scientific American, 2015
Naked Statistics: Stripping the Dread From the Data - Charles Wheelan, 2014
What is a p-value Anyway? 34 Stories to Help You Actually Understand Statistics (paperback) - Andrew Vickers, 2009