

# Striving to Be Tough but Fair

Tips to help you find your balance between building a rigorous course and a good working relationship with your students

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# Presentation Background



Observations drawn from Foundations Algebra, College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Beginning Statistics courses



Beginning Statistics is the only course I have taught fully online asynchronous



Many factors are considered – statistical significance difficult to guarantee



Observations made over the course of several years



Criteria for “success” is students engaging in their own work and earning passing grades as a result

# The Most Common Problems

Students use apps like Mathway and Photomath to solve equations

- Ask less problems of this variety, this also helps improve their communication skills and critical thinking

Students use websites like Chegg and CourseHero to look up answers

- Create custom questions
- Free response helps here too!

Students collaborate or recycle previous semester's work

- Use random values and pull questions from a large bank wherever possible to keep things fresh without causing extra work for yourself each break

# The Role of Free Response

- Improves communication skills
- Helps you determine when they have internalized the meaning of the values
- Makes it easier to identify if answers are duplicated between students
- Provides more compelling evidence of cheating/plagiarism when answers match an external resource
- Connects the material learned to a real-life application

# The Righteous Quest: Academic Integrity

- Virtually all textbook math questions are already answered extensively on sites like Chegg
- Students can upload their own questions to be answered
- Questions are often addressed within an hour, making timed tests ineffectual as a sole countermeasure

**If you make challenging questions, unmotivated or stressed students will post your questions. It is only a matter of time.**

- You can use this same resource to your advantage...

# What should I do then?



You can petition Chegg or Course Hero to take down any work you can prove is your own. Their policy on intellectual property can be found [here](#).



Identifying the party responsible: there is a question ID number in the URL

# Question ID Tracking

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a Chegg.com page. The URL in the address bar is `chegg.com/homework-help/questions-and-answers/thurman-recently-saw-advertisement-said-average-family-eats-5-times-per-month-decides-stud-q51546922`. The page content includes a search bar, a breadcrumb trail, a question title, a table of data, a hypothesis test question, and an expert answer section. A dark grey overlay box on the right side of the page contains the question ID `ts-5-times-per-month-decides-stud-q51546922`. Arrows point from this overlay to the URL in the browser and to the question title on the page.

**Browser Address Bar:** `chegg.com/homework-help/questions-and-answers/thurman-recently-saw-advertisement-said-average-family-eats-5-times-per-month-decides-stud-q51546922`

**Page Header:** Chegg Study Textbook Solutions Expert Q&A Study Pack Practice<sup>NEW!</sup>

**Search Bar:** Find solutions for your homework

**Breadcrumb:** home / study / math / statistics and probability / statistics and probability questions and answers / thurman recently saw an advertisement that said t...

**Question:** Thurman recently saw an advertisement that said the average f...

**See this question in the app**

**Table:**

Dine Out Data						
5	8	12	4	0	6	
7	2	3	1	4	9	
6	13	12	1	1	3	
8	9	3	4	5	6	
2	10	9	11	3	3	
6	1	19	7	2	9	

**Step 2 of 3:** Thurman decides to run a hypothesis test to determine whether the number of times per month is actually higher. State the null and alternative hypotheses.

**Answer:** 2 Points

$H_0$

$H_a$

**Expert Answer**

Kanchan Kumar answered this  
3,398 answers

Was this answer helpful?

*Solution :-*

**Post a question**  
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**Continue to post**  
20 questions remaining

**Snap a photo from your phone to post a question**  
We'll send you a one-time download link  
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- Introduction to... 14th Edition
- Student Solutions... 1st Edition
- Solutions by Chegg

# Question Archive

Once you know your question ID, consider when the assignment may have been completed and use quick sort methods to find your question in the archive.

The screenshot displays the Chegg Study website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes the Chegg Study logo, links for Textbook Solutions, Expert Q&A, Study Pack, and Practice, along with a search bar and user icons. The main content area is titled "Get questions and answers for Statistics and Probability" and features a "Find textbook solutions" button. Below this is a search input field with the placeholder text "Start typing your question". To the right, there are two promotional boxes: "Guided textbook solutions created by Chegg experts" and "24/7 Study Help". The main section is titled "Statistics And Probability Q&A Archive: Select Year & Month" and contains three panels for the years 2020, 2019, and 2018. Each panel lists the months of the year in a grid format.

home / study / math / statistics and probability / statistics and probability questions and answers

## Get questions and answers for Statistics and Probability

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Answers in a pinch from experts and subject enthusiasts all semester long

### Statistics And Probability Q&A Archive: Select Year & Month

2020			
January	February	March	April
May	June		

2019			
January	February	March	April
May	June	July	August
September	October	November	December

2018			
January	February	March	April
...	...	...	...



- Correcting this cannot be done by wishful thinking alone
- Reducing student stress reduces impetus to cheat
- Building strong relationships with your students can help
- Being extremely available can make you their new alternative to Google
- Setting clear boundaries can help you stay sane while doing it

## The Platonic Ideal

Summer 2020 – SLCC made synchronous online learning an option

Previous semesters as much as 25% of the student roster would engage in some form of academic dishonesty, often more than once

This semester only 3% (one student) chose to engage in such behavior.

What was different?

- Video communication – they saw my face and heard my voice and knew a person was on the other end
- Completion-based grades were easily obtained
- Easy out of class communication

# My Success Story

# Class Structure

- My statistics class was comprised of:
  - Mastery-based homework from the publishing company
  - Instructor-created supplementary activities to reinforce applications
  - Exams
- The addition of completion-based assignments similar in style and difficulty to the supplementary activities gave students a graded self-check
- These assignments may be less rigorous, but prompted more questions that translated to higher grades in follow-up activities and far less cheating

# Advice for Novice Online Instructors

- Mastery-based learning takes the pressure off of getting it right the first time
- Completion-based grades help students feel less pressured and ask more questions
- Free response, application-based questions help gauge student understanding and act as a litmus for breaches of conduct
- Video may take time to make, but it is worth it
- Office Suite – many additions were made to help with voice recording and documenting
- Find an additional online resource that is your go-to for a quick answer to repetitive student questions (I like [mathispower4u.com](http://mathispower4u.com))
- Search online for your own questions at the end of each assignment to tell you whether things are going to plan and whether you need to update that assignment

Thank you all  
for coming!

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