George Mason University College of Education and Human Development Mathematics Education Leadership

MATH 612-6M1 – Probability and Statistics for K-8 Teachers
3 Credits, Spring 2018
Wednesdays (4:30 – 7:10 PM) James Wood MIddle School, Room 106
1313 Amherst Street, Winchester, VA 22601
Winchester, VA 22601

Faculty

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Prerequisites/Corequisites

Admission to the Mathematics Education Leadership Master's Degree Program or instructor permission. Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non-Degree or Senior Plus. Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students. Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may **not** enroll.

University Catalog Course Description

An introduction to probability, descriptive statistics, and data analysis. Topics studied will include the exploration of randomness, data representation, modeling. Descriptive statistics will include measures of central tendency, dispersion, distributions, and regression. The analysis of experiments requiring hypothesizing, experimental design and data gathering will also be discussed.

Course Overview

This course is for future K-8 mathematics teacher specialists will cover the Virginia SOL strands in probability and statistics, especially those in grades 5-8. Special attention will be given to interpreting and assessing students' work and learning.

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered using a lecture format.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

- 1. Candidates will develop a comprehensive understanding of probability and statistics reasoning, representation and data collection.
- 2. Candidates will examine in depth probability and statistics content appropriate for K-8 mathematics teachers, including the use of technology to study probability and statistics and historical connections to probability and statistics.
- 3. Candidates will explore fundamentals of data collection, data analysis, probability, statistics, and relationships.
- 4. Candidates will examine probability and statistics Habits of Mind, in order to assess their own progress throughout the course and to discover these models' pedagogical implications on classroom instruction.

Professional Standards (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM))

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards: To be prepared to support the development of student mathematical proficiency, all elementary mathematics specialists should know the following topics related to statistics and probability with their content understanding and mathematical practices supported by appropriate technology and varied representational tools, including concrete models:

- C.4.1 Statistical variability and its sources and the role of randomness in statistical inference
- C.4.2 Construction and interpretation of graphical displays of univariate and bivariate data distributions (e.g., box plots and histograms), summary measures (mean, median, mode, interquartile range, and mean absolute deviation) and comparison of distributions of univariate data, and exploration of categorical (discrete) and measurement (continuous) data
- C.4.3 Empirical and theoretical probability for both simple and compound events
- C.4.4 Random (chance) phenomena and simulations
- C.4.5 Historical development and perspectives of statistics and probability including contributions of significant figures and diverse cultures

Standard 2: Mathematical Practices (NCTM NCATE Mathematics Content for Elementary Mathematics Specialist *Addendum to the NCTM NCATE Standards 2012*)

In their role as teacher, lead teacher, and/or coach/mentor, elementary mathematics specialist candidates:

3a) Apply knowledge of curriculum standards for elementary mathematics and their relationship to student learning within and across mathematical domains in teaching elementary students and coaching/mentoring elementary classroom teachers.

3c) Plan and assist others in planning lessons and units that incorporate a variety of strategies, differentiated instruction for diverse populations, and mathematics-specific instructional technologies in building all students' conceptual understanding and procedural proficiency.

3e) Implement and promote techniques related to student engagement and communication including selecting high quality tasks, guiding mathematical discussions, identifying key mathematical ideas, identifying and addressing student misconceptions, and employing a range of questioning strategies.

5b) Engage students and coach/mentor teachers in using developmentally appropriate mathematical activities and investigations that require active engagement and include mathematics-specific technology in building new knowledge.

Required Texts

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2013). *Developing essential understanding of statistics for teaching mathematics in grades 6-8*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2014). *Principles to actions: ensuring mathematical success for all*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Recommended Texts

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2003). *Navigating through Data Analysis and Probability in Grades K-2*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2003). *Navigating through Data Analysis and Probability in Grades 3-5*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2003). *Navigating through Data Analysis and Probability in Grades 6-8*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy). PBA Reflections are uploaded to Tk20. The Technology Project is shared via Google Docs/Slides and/or email.

• Assignments and/or Examinations

A. Reflections (50%) – Performance Based Assessment

NCATE/NCTM Indicator 1a (C.2.1 - C. 2.5), 2a, 2b, 2c, 2f

Student will reflect on four rich mathematical tasks problem and submit a reflection for each. Additionally, students will explore a historical figure and write a reflection on the historical contribution.

B. Individual Content Assessments (20%)

Students will complete various individual content assessments that will assess their individual understanding of K-8 probability and statistics content.

C. Technology Project (20%)

Explore probability and statistics specific technology (ie: virtual graphing software, Geogebra, etc. NOT Smartboards, iPads, etc.). Prepare a short presentation for teachers that explains how the technology can be used for probability and statistics in multiple grade levels. The presentation should be interactive and engage teachers in using the technology to explore a task.

D. Participation (10%)

Students are expected to participate actively. This requires students to consider probability and statistics using different strategies and a variety of manipulatives and resources. During math work time, students should be developing algorithms for the <u>entire</u> work time, or discussing and sharing algorithms with each other. During math-talk and discussion times, students should be actively engaged by voicing their thoughts and connecting to topics presented during the discussion.

Other Requirements

It is your responsibility to attend all class sessions. Please report your reasons for any absences to the instructor in writing.

Tardiness: It is your responsibility to be on time for each class session. Please report your reasons for any tardiness to the instructor in writing.

Class materials will be posted for each class session on Blackboard. Students are responsible for reviewing these materials and submitting required artifacts (where appropriate) to online class discussion boards.

Grading Policy (Graduate Grading Scale)

A 93%-100%	B+ 87%-89%	C 70%-79%
A- 90%-92%	B 80%-86%	F Below 70%

For Master's Degrees:

Candidates must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in coursework presented on the degree application, which may include no more than 6 credits of C. (Grades of C+, C-, or D do not apply to graduate courses. The GPA calculation excludes all transfer courses and Mason non-degree studies credits not formally approved for the degree).

For Endorsement Requirements

Candidates must have a grade of B or higher for all licensure coursework (endorsement coursework).

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. Education professionals are held to high standards, both inside and outside of the classroom. Educators are evaluated on their behaviors and interactions with students, parents, other professionals, and the community at large. At the College of Education and Human Development, dispositions may play a part in the discussions and assignments of any/all courses in a student's program (and thus, as part or all of the grade for those assignments). For additional information visit: https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/

Schedule

Date	Assignment Due			
January 24	Please bring your textbooks!			
Introduction to probability	National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2013). Developing essential understanding of statistics for teaching mathematics in grades 6-8. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2014). Principles to actions: ensuring mathematical success for all. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.			
January 31	READINGS			
Probability: Empirical	PTA: Effective Teaching and Learning (p.7 - 12)			
and theoretical	STAT: Introduction (p. 1)			
	ASSIGNMENTS			
	PBA #3 Due			
February 7	READINGS			
Probability as a tool for	PTA: Establish Mathematics Goals to Focus Learning (p.12)			
statistics	STAT: Probability as a tool for statistics (p. 89-91)			
	ASSIGNMENTS			
	Technology Project Part 1 Due			
	Sign up for Technology Project Tool			
February 14	READINGS			
	PTA: Implement Tasks That Promote Reasoning and Problem Solving (p. 17)			

Problem solving using	STAT: Displaying distributions of categorical data (p. 13 – 17)		
categorical Data	STAT: Numerical summaries of categorical data (p. 17 – 19)		
	ASSIGNMENTS		
	PBA #4 Due		
February 21	READINGS		
Connecting	PTA: Use and Connect Mathematical Representations (p. 24)		
representations of quantitative data	STAT: Displaying distributions of quantitative data (p. 19 – 21)		
4	STAT: Assessing Statistical Understanding (p. 100 – 104)		
	ASSIGNMENTS		
	Individual Content Assessment #1 Due		
February 28	READINGS		
Meaningful discourse	PTA: Facilitate Meaningful Mathematical Discourse (p. 29)		
using math terms for center	STAT: Measuring the center of a distribution (p. 21 – 24)		
	STAT: Measuring the amount of variability in a distribution (p. 24 – 28)		
	ASSIGNMENTS		
	Technology Presentations Group 1		
March 7	READINGS		
What questions does	PTA: Pose Purposeful Questions (p. 35)		
your data answer?	STAT: Grouping Data (p. 28 – 31)		
	STAT: The shape of a distribution (p. 32)		
	ASSIGNMENTS		
	Individual Content Assessment #2 Due		
March 14*	Complete Asynchronous Class Assignment		
*Online Asynchronous Class			
Graphing in our world			
March 21	READINGS		
Understanding the	PTA: Build Procedural Fluency from Conceptual Understanding (p. 42)		
outliers	STAT: An alternative grouping strategy (p. 32 – 35)		
	STAT: Outliers (p. 36 – 41)		
	ASSIGNMENTS		
Revised 12-6-17			

	Individual Content Assessment #3 Due			
March 28	Spring Break – No Class			
April 4	READINGS			
Productive struggle in	PTA: Support Productive Struggle in Learning Mathematics (p. 48)			
statistics	STAT: Comparing Distributions: Big Idea 2 (p.42 – 50)			
	ASSIGNMENTS			
	PBA #2 Due			
April 11	READINGS			
Using student work to	PTA: Elicit and Use Evidence of Student Thinking (p. 53)			
ask questions about data	STAT: Associations between Two Variables: Big Idea 3 (p.51-65)			
	ASSIGNMENTS			
	PBA #1 Due			
April 18*	READINGS			
Samples and Populations	STAT: Samples and Populations: Big Idea 4 (p.67 – 78)			
	ASSIGNMENTS			
	Technology Presentations Group 2			
April 25*	READINGS			
Math leadership in	STAT: Connections: Looking Back and Ahead in Learning (p. 81 – 92)			
probability and statistics	ASSIGNMENTS			
*Online Asynchronous Class	Individual Content Assessment #4 Due			
	Asynchronous Assignment Due			
	If you are attending NCSM or NCTM, you do not need to complete the asynchronous assignment. Documentation Required.			
May 2	READINGS			
Challenges in teaching	STAT: Challenges: Learning, Teaching, and Assessing (p. 93 – 104)			
probability and statistics	ASSIGNMENTS			
	PBA #5 Historical Reflection			

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see http://ods.gmu.edu/).
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to https://coursessupport.gmu.edu/.
- The Writing Center provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing (see http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/).
- The Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance (see http://caps.gmu.edu/).

• The Student Support & Advocacy Center staff helps students develop and maintain healthy lifestyles through confidential one-on-one support as well as through interactive programs and resources. Some of the topics they address are healthy relationships, stress management, nutrition, sexual assault, drug and alcohol use, and sexual health (see http://ssac.gmu.edu/). Students in need of these services may contact the office by phone at 703-993-3686. Concerned students, faculty and staff may also make a referral to express concern for the safety or well-being of a Mason student or the community by going to http://ssac.gmu.edu/make-a-referral/.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website https://cehd.gmu.edu/.

Probability and Statistics Content and Practices Task Reflection:

Course Performance Based Assessments

This is a Performance Based Assessment that addresses the following NCTM Math Specialist Standards:

- NCTM Elements: 1a, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2, f
- NCTM Content Standard: C.4.1, C.4.2, C.4.3 & C.4.4

The purpose of this Course Performance Based Assessment is for the candidate to demonstrate preparedness to support the development of student mathematical proficiency. All elementary mathematics specialists should know the above topics related to probability and statistics with their content understanding and mathematical practices.

The candidate will complete a task and written reflection connected to their current mathematical understanding and how it has changed over the duration of the course. The final product will be submitted on Blackboard in Tk20. For a complete rubric and grading criteria please see the rubric below.

Summary of Actions

- Solve the problem set using multiple strategies (concrete, pictorial and abstract). Show your work and include pictures of all concrete representations.
- Reflect on your problem by answering the questions for the written reflection paper.
- Submit the following to Tk20: 1) task strategies with work samples; and 2) written reflection paper.

Probability and Statistics Content & Practices Task Reflection

Course Performance Based Assessment Reflection Logs 1-4 Rubric

Level/Criteria	4	3	2	1
•	Exceeds	Meets	Developing	Does Not Meet
	Expectations	Expectations		Expectations
BUILDING	The candidate	The candidate	The candidate	The candidate does
CONCEPTUAL AND	includes all of the	includes two of the	includes one of the	not include any of
PROCEDURAL UNDERSTANDING	following elements:	following elements:	following elements:	following elements:
	Application of	Application of	Application of	Application of
NCTM Element 1.a	conceptual and	conceptual and	conceptual and	conceptual and
Demonstrate and	procedural	procedural	procedural	procedural
apply knowledge of	knowledge in	knowledge in	knowledge in	knowledge in
major mathematics	identifying	identifying	identifying	identifying
concepts,	solutions in the	solutions in the	solutions in the	solutions in the
algorithms,	problem set	problem set	problem set	problem set
procedures, applications in	Explanation of the	• Explanation of the	• Explanation of the	• Explanation of the
varied contexts and	development of	development of	development of	development of
connections.	conceptual to	conceptual to	conceptual to	conceptual to
	procedural	procedural	procedural	procedural
	knowledge	knowledge	knowledge	knowledge
	Discussion of new	Discussion of new	Discussion of new	• Discussion of new
	knowledge gained	knowledge gained	knowledge gained	knowledge gained
	and the	and the	and the	and the
	connections to	connections to	connections to	connections to
	past knowledge	past knowledge	past knowledge	past knowledge
	and experiences	and experiences	and experiences	and experiences
PROBLEM SOLVING	The candidate	The candidate	The candidate	The candidate does
	includes all of the	includes two of the	includes one of the	not include any of
NCTM Element 2.a	following elements:	following elements:	following elements:	following elements:
Use problem		_	_	_
solving to develop	• Describes the use	Use of problem	Use of problem	Use of problem
conceptual	of problem solving	solving within the	solving within the	solving within the
understanding,	within the	problem set to	problem set to	problem set to
make a sense of a wide variety of	problem set to	formulate	formulate	formulate
problems and	formulate	generalizations	generalizations	generalizations
persevere in solving	generalizations	Make sense of the	Make sense of the	Make sense of the
them, apply and	• Explains how to	problems in the	problems in the	problems in the
adapt a variety of	make sense of the	problem set	problem set	problem set
strategies in solving	problems in the	 Apply a variety of 	 Apply a variety of 	 Apply a variety of
problems	problem set	strategies and	strategies and	strategies and
confronted within the field of	 Apply a variety of 	representations to	representations to	representations to
mathematics and	strategies and	the problem set	the problem set	the problem set
other contexts, and				
outer contexts, and	l	l	l	1

formulate and test conjectures in order to frame generalizations.	representations to the problem set	The condidate	The condidate	The condidate day
REPRESENTATIONS NCTM Element 2.b Reason abstractly, reflectively, and quantitatively with attention to units, constructing viable arguments and proofs, and critiquing the reasoning of others; represent and model generalizations using mathematics; recognize structure and express regularity in patterns of mathematical reasoning; use multiple representations to model and describe mathematics; and utilize appropriate mathematical vocabulary and symbols to communicate mathematical ideas to others.	The candidate includes all of the following elements: Describes how multiple representations were used to model the problem set Discusses how the representations support the creation of generalizations Uses appropriate mathematical vocabulary and symbols	The candidate includes two of the following elements: Describes how multiple representations were used to model the problem set Discusses how the representations support the creation of generalizations Uses appropriate mathematical vocabulary and symbols	The candidate includes one of the following elements: Describes how multiple representations were used to model the problem set Discusses how the representations support the creation of generalizations Uses appropriate mathematical vocabulary and symbols	The candidate does not include any of following elements: Describes how multiple representations were used to model the problem set Discusses how the representations support the creation of generalizations Uses appropriate mathematical vocabulary and symbols
CONTEXT NCTM Element 2.C Formulate, represent, analyze, and interpret mathematical models derived from real-world contexts of mathematical problems.	The candidate includes all of the following elements: • An example of a similar problem with a different context. • An analysis of a similar problem (compare and contrast) • An interpretation of the solution	The candidate includes two of the following elements: • An example of a similar problem with a different context. • An analysis of a similar problem (compare and contrast) • An interpretation of the solution	The candidate includes one of the following elements: • An example of a similar problem with a different context. • An analysis of a similar problem (compare and contrast) • An interpretation of the solution	The candidate does not include any of following elements: • An example of a similar problem with a different context. • An analysis of a similar problem (compare and contrast) • An interpretation of the solution
NCTM PROCESS STANDARDS	The candidate includes a reflection			

NCTM Element 2.F

Use and assist teachers in using resources from professional mathematics education organizations such as teacher/leader discussion groups, teacher networks, and print, digital, and virtual resources/collections

on the process standards that includes a description of how each of the five NCTM Process Standards impact the mathematical understanding.

The reflection includes specific instances where the candidate assisted teachers using all of the following elements:

- Teacher/Leader discussion groups
- Teacher networks
- Print, digital, and virtual resources/

collections

on the process standards that includes a description of how four of the five NCTM Process Standards impact the mathematical understanding.

The reflection includes specific instances where the candidate assisted teachers using two of the following elements:

- Teacher/Leader discussion groups
- Teacher networks
- Print, digital, and virtual resources/

collections

on the process standards that includes a description of how three of the five NCTM Process Standards impact the mathematical understanding.

The reflection includes specific instances where the candidate assisted teachers using one of the following elements:

- Teacher/Leader discussion groups
- Teacher networks
- Print, digital, and virtual resources/ collections

on the process standards that includes a description of how one or two NCTM Process Standards impact the mathematical understanding.

The reflection does not include any specific instances where the candidate assisted teachers using all of the following elements:

- Teacher/Leader discussion groups
- Teacher networks
- Print, digital, and virtual resources/

collections

Reflection Log 5 rubric

The final reflection log will involve researching a major mathematical historical development and the contributions of a historically significant figure. We will discuss many of these developments and figures during the math talk all throughout the semester. However, this discussion will be brief. Once you find a topic that interests you, you should research it further. The following reflection should be about 2 pages in length and will be evaluated using the following criteria.

Levels/Criteria	4	3	2	1
	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Developing	Does Not Meet Expectations
NCTM Indicator C.1.5 Historical development of probability and statistics.	Essay describes the historical development of probability and statistics in depth and provides specific examples.	Essay describes the historical development of probability and statistics and provides specific examples.	Essay describes the historical development of probability and statistics and provides an example.	Essay includes incomplete description of historical development of probability and statistics.
NCTM Indicator C.1.5 Historical perspectives of probability and statistics.	Essay describes the historical perspectives of probability and statistics in depth and provides specific examples.	Essay describes the historical perspectives of probability and statistics and provides specific examples.	Essay describes the historical perspectives of probability and statistics and provides an example.	Essay includes incomplete description of historical perspectives of probability and statistics.
NCTM Indicator C.1.5 Contributions of historically significant figures and diverse cultures.	Essay describes contributions of historically significant figures and diverse cultures in depth and provides specific examples.	Essay describes contributions of historically significant figures and diverse cultures and provides specific examples.	Essay describes contributions of historically significant figures and diverse cultures and provides an example.	Essay includes incomplete description of historically significant figures and diverse cultures.