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Principles Of Biostatistics (with CD-ROM)



Synopsis

Marcello Pagano and Kimberlee Gauvreau's PRINCIPLES OF BIostatISTICS, Second Edition is a concepts-based introduction to statistical procedures that prepares public health, medical, and life sciences students to conduct and evaluate research. With an engaging writing style and helpful graphics, the emphasis is on concepts over formulas or rote memorization. Throughout the book, the authors use practical, interesting examples with real data to bring the material to life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm a postdoctoral level biomedical researcher who has used many other biostatistics books before. This book is currently used for entry-level biostatistics at my School of Public Health. The bonus is that this book is geared towards epidemiology (eg, there is a chapter on rates and standardization), and I liked the CDROM that comes with the book and contains datasets. Unfortunately, the authors have chosen to derive many key concepts from probability theory. This is fine if you are comfortable with probability concepts. However, most students with background in social sciences are not: thus I found that this approach often adds an unnecessary level of complexity. Most of the examples are long-winded, dragging on from page to page - flipping back and forth is extremely frustrating, and the layout makes it difficult to grasp what the point of each example is. Also, the long-winded style makes this book a poor desk reference if you just quickly need to check a formula or definition. Sadly I have to say that I very rarely use this \$100 book - there are plenty of more accessible and

succinct entry-level texts that cost a fraction of this volume. And yes, Google is better learning tool than this book.

Let me just start by saying I really like math, but this book did not help me to learn biostatistics at all. It doesn't explain the issues and equations very well and it has absolutely no answers in the back to check with yours, that's a whole other book...and that only has answers to the odds. Perhaps this would be a decent book for anyone who already has a handle on the subject and wants to learn more, but if this is your first exposure to biostatistics, like me, try another source to learn from, this book makes a difficult subject near impossible.

Like Rosner's book by the same publisher, this text is an introductory text by Harvard professors who teach medical students. It seems to be in competition with Rosner's book which makes me wonder why the same publisher is publishing them both. The style is different but the market and level of the two books seem to be the same. Both texts include diskettes with data for PCs. Both books are well written and cover mostly the same topics. The Pagano text seems to go into a little more detail on contingency tables and survival analysis. Both contain lists of valuable references.

This book is one of the worst math books I've ever encountered. The book is written in a flow of consciousness style, with explanations thrown into the middle of other explanations. When you sit through lecture explaining the same concepts, it would be nice to use the book as reference to flip through, glance at, and touch up on areas you are weak, but with this book, you're forced to read pages of text just to find what you're looking for. Ideas and concepts are organized into sections, but the sections can span pages, so if you find the equation you're looking for on one page, the variables and concepts contained within it could be contained in other equations and paragraphs on 1-3 pages before it. Overall, not a good reference book, just horrible. Don't buy this book unless it's required for your course and homework is assigned out of it.

This book is the gold standard in my department (Public Health at the Uni of Utah), but I'm not overly impressed. At times it is concise to a fault. I think there could be a few more examples and more general information about application of these operations in the real world.

Purchased for my Principles of Biostatistics course... this is one of the WORST textbooks that I have ever encountered. the topics are almost near impossible to understand, numbers are not consistent

in consecutive tables, etc. Whoever edited this book did not scrutinize it enough for continuity.

It's not as dreary as other statistics books. The proofs are presented relatively clearly. The text is compact and key concepts are highlighted. For this level of statistics, this is probably the best one could expect.

Ultra overpriced and extremely outdated. I don't understand why trying at making simple concepts so complicated. Not recommended at all: I am someone who already published over 100 papers in PubMed within the last 7 years and I already know how to do any kind of analysis in SPSS. I was forced to buy this for a Master class. It was an unnecessary pain to deal with formulas, equations and things other than the mere concepts or direct application. That is the way biostatistics was presented decades ago, with no actual direct practical application. Ridiculous price for a prehistoric book.

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