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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 like the approach taken by these authors. The data examples are timely and fit well into a Public Health format...The statistical graphics are well handled in this text."

Robert R. Pagano received a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1956 and a Ph.D. in Biological Psychology from Yale University in 1965. He was Assistant Professor and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Washington, Seattle, from 1965 to 1989. He was Associate Chairman of the Department of Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh, from 1990 to June 2000. While there, in addition to his other duties, he served as Director of Undergraduate Studies, was the departmental adviser for undergraduate majors, taught both undergraduates and graduate statistics courses, and served as a statistical consultant for departmental faculty. Pagano was also Director of the Statistical Cores for

two NIH center grants in schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease. He retired from the University of Pittsburgh in June 2000. Pagano taught introductory statistics courses at the University of Washington and at the University of Pittsburgh for over thirty years combined. While at the University of Washington, he was a finalist for the Outstanding Teaching award for his instruction of introductory statistics.

Let me preface this review with the fact that I never take the time to review anything, ever. If you're professor has made the unfortunate choice to teach out of this text do yourself a favor and purchase some sort of statistics guide book. I bought an old version of statistics for dummies so I could actually find a definition for topics such as binomial probabilities, etc. How the authors managed to skip specific definitions, introductions to topics and context in general is really a special and finely honed skill that I SO DON'T appreciate. Also, do not pay anything over \$20 for this book there seems to be copies in circulation that do suffice.

I purchased this textbook for my principles of biostatistics class at college. It is, hands down, the worst textbook I have ever encountered. First of all, it gives no clear explanations of any of the concepts or how to the formulas. The examples given are long winded and span several pages, making it difficult to follow. In many cases, there are several paragraphs of text given to irrelevant background information( such as explaining some disease). The student must sift through all this information in attempt to find the 1-2 sentences which actually explain how to solve the problem. In addition, there are no solved problems at the back of the book. this makes it difficult to study for exams, because while I am sitting there solving practice problems I have no idea whether I am doing them correctly or not, unless the professor posts answers, which they usually do not find time to do. Finally, this book does not teach you how to use excel or any statistical software. I think this is a shame because outside of the classroom statistical software is always used. The only way I got through this course was with the help of google and a few reference guides from the library. If you have any choice in the matter, save yourself a headache and do not buy this book, or try not to take a class which uses this book.

I've debated writing this review for a few months now.. This book is awful. Even with an intro statistics class under my belt, this book was hard to follow. And unlike most textbooks, it doesn't have solutions to the odd problems in the back. So you either have to rely on your teacher to post solutions or buy a separate manual. I've seen at least one other review mention it being

overpriced..I'm also pretty peeved about the price. I know prices fluctuate on , but this product changed wildly. 6 months ago, I purchased this new for \$284 (including tax) and now it's available for \$55. Wtf is that about.

This Principles of Biostatistics book was a required reading/reference for a Biostatistics I class designed as an introductory course in probability and statistics for five majors including epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, community health, and family science. It claims to be a comprehensive introduction to statistical procedures with the provision of numerous examples and graphics to fully explain the various concepts covered in the class. Through my experience, the professor did give their own powerpoint lectures with concepts and examples from the book. However, with an apparent nod to other reviews of this book, the professor supplemented much of the material from the book in order to successfully/effectively explain a concept and show us the full and proper way to complete various problems. As such, this book is helpful in that it does explain certain concepts and gives solid examples. Unfortunately, this expectation is not met throughout the entire book and I am grateful that my professor saw fit to complete the instruction where the book left off/left out.

I took this course from one of the authors at Harvard and the course followed the book very closely. I thought this book was well written and succinct. It uses math where other courses may just use verbiage, but actually makes it clearer. I highly recommend this book. It does not include problem solutions (odd problems only) and requires also buying the solution manual, which I also highly recommend. I did many of the problems in the solution manual and only found 2 or 3 small errors.

This book does a poor job of explaining the theories behind statistics and equations used, as well as their applicability. Each example is only good for the particular situation showcased, and does not help students translate instruction and theories to common use in academic or practical settings.

This product explicitly states in the title that it comes with the CD-rom, which I needed to have and was one of the reason I purchased this specific item. However, it did not actually come with the CD. Very disappointed.

No

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