
Authors: Jason Kilgore, Biology Department, Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA; Ryan Higginbottom, Mathematics Department, Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, PA

Title: Cross-disciplinary coteaching of an applied biostatistics course: equipping pre-health and biology students with more relevant quantitative skills

Abstract: To better prepare biology and pre-health students for advanced undergraduate and graduate work, we designed an applied biostatistics course that emphasized both the theoretical and practical tools necessary to use modern statistical methods. Students critically reviewed experiments in primary literature, solved problems by hand and by SPSS, and conducted original research projects. We used standard curricular assessment methods in addition to the CURE survey, an informal mid-semester survey, and course assistant feedback to adjust class structure during the semester and to shape future iterations of the course.