Instructors: Dr. David Patterson, Math 208, 243-6748, david.patterson@umontana.edu  
Ms. Sharon O’Hare, Lommasson 278, 243-5672, sohare@mso.umt.edu  
The Numbers Game, by Michael Blastland and Andrew Dilnot, 2009.  
Prerequisites: M 090 (grade of B- or better), or M 095, or Level 3 placement on ALEKS placement exam  
Office Hours: Patterson: Tu 1-2, W 1-2, Th 10-11; O’Hare: by appointment. Instructors are also available by appointment and are also usually available right after class.  
Final Exam (required): Thursday, May 10, 8:00-10:00 am. The final exam will not be given early.  
Tutoring help: help on computational problems is available at the Math@Mansfield tutoring center on the main floor of the Mansfield Library. Tutors may not be able to help you on more conceptual problems.  
Important dates:  
February 10 – last day to drop/add, change grading option by Cyberbear  
March 26 – last day to drop by paper form (may be signed by Math office staff). After March 26, drops may only be made by petition for circumstances beyond the student’s control (see catalog); written documentation is required.  
April 2-6: Spring break (no classes)  
May 4: last day of class; last day to change grading option (paper form); last day to drop by petition  
May 10: final exam, 8:00 am  

Note: a grade of C- or better is required to satisfy the general education mathematical literacy requirement; a CR grade will give you credit for the class but will not satisfy the general education math requirement.  

Grading:  
Attendance/participation (including group work): 20%  
Quizzes/homework (lowest quiz score will be dropped): 40%  
Midterm (March 15): 20%  
Final (May 10): 20%  

The grading scale is 90-100% A/A-; 80-89% B+/B/B-; 70-79% C+/C/C-; 60-69% D+/D/D-; < 60% F. Cutoffs may be lowered but will not be raised. For CR/NCR grading, a grade of CR is given if the letter grade would be D- or above.  

Catalog description  
An exploration of mathematics and statistics as used in the popular media. For students in the School of Journalism only.  

Learning Goals:  
1. To achieve fluency in dealing with numbers as reported in the media: estimation, percents, rates, interest calculations, real and nominal values, etc.  
2. To learn the basics of constructing numerical and graphical summaries of data and become critical evaluators of such summaries presented in the media.  
3. To learn the basic ideas of good experimental design and good sampling design and
become critical evaluators of such studies.

4. To understand the nature of randomness and its role in assessing apparent trends and patterns in real data.

5. To understand the interpretation of margin of error and confidence intervals in the context of real problems.

Incompletes are given at the discretion of the instructors and are only considered in cases where

a. the student has been in attendance and doing passing work up to three weeks before the end of the semester, and

b. for reasons beyond the student’s control and which are acceptable to the instructors, the student has been unable to complete the requirements of the course on time. Negligence and indifference are not acceptable reasons.

Students with disabilities are welcome to discuss accommodations with us.

Academic Honesty
All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary action by the University.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. You can find it in the A-Z index on the UM home page.

Please note: Approved general education changes will take effect next fall.

General education instructors will be expected to provide sample assessment items and corresponding responses to the Assessment Advisory Committee.