1. Locate and bookmark the course website


   This site is where you will obtain your homework assignments (click on the Homework tab) and later find solutions to homeworks and other related material. Please note the dates of the midterms and final exam and put them in your calendar.

2. Log on to Canvas and Piazza. You will need a computer with internet access. Go to the Canvas website:

   [https://sjsu.instructure.com/](https://sjsu.instructure.com/)

   Use your SJSUOne username and password to log in. If you do not know your username and/or password, call the SJSU helpdesk at (408) 924-2377. They can reset the password for you.

   Once logged in, click on courses. You should see a link for Math 261A. Click on the link. Once logged into the course, you should see a course home page - you will occasionally find material there that is not intended for all the world to see. You will also see a Grades tab in which the scores of your homework assignments and exams will be posted after grading. Check back often to make sure that grades posted are correct. There is also a link to Piazza. Click on the link and log on to Piazza. Piazza is an online question and answer forum that you may use to connect with other students and to have your course-related questions answered. You do not need to take any further action, I can see whether you have successfully logged on to Canvas and to Piazza.

3. You will need access to a computer that runs R. R is freely downloadable from [http://cran.r-project.org/](http://cran.r-project.org/). It runs on Windows, Mac and Linux platforms. Click on the “Download R for...” link and select the latest version to download. You can find help for learning how to work with R on the course website (click on the R-Help tab) and in several freely available publications listed on the R-Help page.

   If you do not have access to a private computer on which you can install R to work on your homework assignments, you will need to use the Math computer lab in MH221. R is already installed on the machines in this lab. Use your SJSUOne accounts to access the computers in the lab.

4. Prerequisite check: Math 161A (or an equivalent calculus based introduction to probability and statistics course) as well as Math 129A (Linear Algebra) both with grades B or better are prerequisites for this course. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the topics covered in these courses. We will not be able to review prerequisite materials during this course, but you may want to review them on your own. Ask me for materials if you feel that you need a refresher.

   The instructor reserves the right to ask students to document that they have taken these prerequisite courses. If you are asked, please bring a copy of your transcript with you to class on Monday, 8/28/17.