Text

The main text is "Engineering Statistics" by Montgomery, Runger and Hubele, 3rd Edition (Wiley 2003) which should be available at the bookstore.

A more-advanced version of this book is "Design and Analysis of Experiments" by Montgomery, 5th Edition (Wiley 2001) but it is very difficult to read. (Runger and Hubele obviously are the human interface for Montgomery and they do a fine job.) In fact I think our course text is so much better than any other book on the subject that I am not putting any books on reserve in the Science Library.

Homework, Grades, Project

Homework is an important part of this course and should be taken seriously, but the kinds of problems we are working on often require the use of a computer and are not really suited to exams. We will, however, have a single midterm exam, testing some basic knowledge. The grades for the course will be based on homework (40%), the midterm (20%) and a final project (40%). Homework will be assigned weekly, on Wednesday, and collected on the following Wednesday.

I'll discuss the project in class. The basic idea is that you will choose some set of data which either is already available (e.g. on the Internet) or which you collect yourself and then use it to demonstrate your understanding of methods we have learned in class. You'll be surprised at how much interesting analysis you can do on fairly simple sets of data. The project is written up and turned in at the end of term. It is important that you start thinking about the project as soon as possible.

Software
Many of the homework problems will be solved using statistical analysis software. Although Excel can be used for some early material in the course, we will eventually want to make use of the SAS, which can be found on darkwing and gladstone. Here are some notes about SAS.

Course materials will appear on this Web site. They will often be in the form of PDF files, so get yourselves copies of the Adobe Acrobat Reader.

http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html