

Carving the Beautiful Introductory Statistics Course (What Not to Teach and When Not to Teach It)

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Many introductory Statistics courses are weighed down with excess material. First we must carve away these unneeded parts. Then we can begin to show students how to construct a coherent and beautiful model of the topic. We carve away excess stone, but the students build with clay, so we must help them build from the bottom up and from the inside out. By the end of the session we'll have a coherent well-ordered set of topics for the introductory Statistics course.

Note: The nature of the session is to discuss which topics should be in or out of the intro course and what order to teach them in. There is no "right" answer to either of these issues. I plan to present my ideas during the session in a way that will hopefully provoke others to respond with their own thoughts, and which will lead to a spirited discussion.

We will prepare "minutes" of the discussion for later distribution regarding conclusions that we come to as a group.