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Using research papers as a tool in teaching introductory statistics.

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Summary: The introductory course in statistics has traditionally been taught as a collection of computationally intensive activities. In recent years, many statisticians have become involved in the reform movement in statistical education aimed at the teaching of introductory statistics. Those interested in reform want to emphasize statistical thinking and understanding and help students appreciate the role of statistics in the scientific process and in life. This paper suggests using research papers from refereed journals to illustrate how different statistical concepts are used together in scientific inquiry. In addition, it is hoped that students will see the value and relevance of statistics in their own lives and careers through examining research in their own areas of interest.

Classification: D45

Keywords: introductory statistics; research papers; teaching methods

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