Case Study 1
for January 28

We need to conduct a forest survey this summer using 21 employees. Due to the sampling scheme and the logistics of the survey, we must construct three crews of seven each. Crews go out in the field for five days and then return to base camp on the weekends. Each crew consists of six data collectors and one data recorder. The data collection effort is hard work, whereas data recording is rather less physically tiring. We need happy crews, so we need to make sure that everyone gets a turn at data recording. Furthermore, experience has shown that it is best to remix the crew assignments every week. So what we need are crew assignments for nine weeks, mixing up the employees to crews and making sure that everyone gets to be recorder once.

Questions for consideration. Why is this statistical? What are some tools that you can bring to bear on the problem? If you know the general class of tool, where could you look for more complete information? How can you explain your assignment method to someone else so that they could use it in some other survey (e.g., next year)?

Describe at least two methods you might use to do this; one of which you could do yourself, using whatever statistical and computing tools you liked, and the other that they could do in the field with no computing resources at all.

Here are the groups that will work together on this case. The first student on each list will present the group's findings and should also organize group meetings. The groups should get together in the coming week and figure out answers to the questions. On Friday, January 28, the presenter will have 12 minutes of class time to say what the team thought about the problem. You may use the board or computer projector as you see fit.

To ease switching between groups, we will use my computer for all presenters, so if you choose to make a digital presentation, please email the slides to me by 2pm, or bring them on a thumb drive and arrive five minutes early. PDF format is preferred.

Group 1:

Name	Email
Martin Bezener	beze0028
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Steve Nydick	nydic001
Mark Albrecht	albre116
Christine Oehlert	oehl0010
Feng Yi	yixxx064

Group 2:

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Yunzhang Zhu	zhuxx351
Jeff Clobes	clobe017
Christina Knudson	knud0158
Jeff Jones	jone1087

Group 3:

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Xin Zhang	zhan0648
Yiping Yuan	yuan0076
Sen Yuan	yuan0066
Andrea Olson	olso1925
Pat Zimmerman	zimme450

Group 4:

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Andy Johnson	joh03017
Stacy Orlett	moel0046
Ann Pang	pangx044
Brad Price	price412