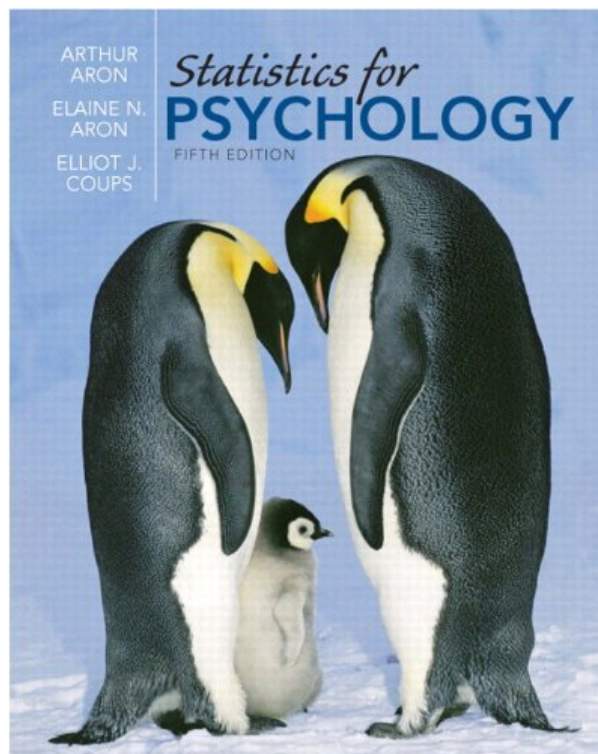
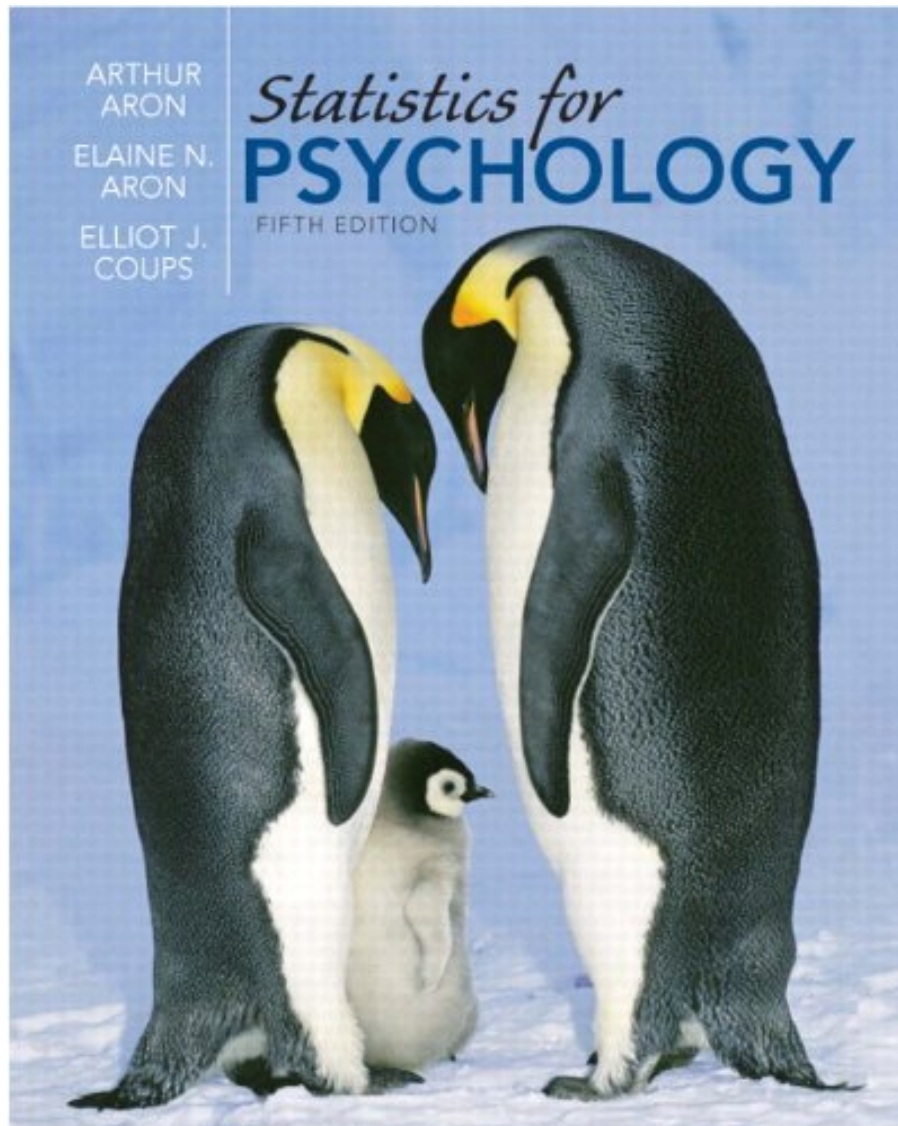


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The fifth edition of this popular text uses definitional formulas to emphasize concepts of statistics, rather than rote memorization. This approach constantly reminds students of the logic behind what they are learning, and each procedure is taught both verbally and numerically, which helps to emphasize the concepts. Thoroughly revised, with new content and many new practice examples, this text takes the reader from basic procedures through analysis of variance (ANOVA). While learning statistics, students also learn how to read and interpret current research.

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Good book.

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A great book for the non-statistically minded

By A Customer

I found this book greatly supportive to a non-statistically minded person such as myself. The authors realise that not everyone feels comfortable with doing statistics and, indeed, actually dread it. Since I need to do a Statistics for Psychology course to continue in Psychology it has been a relief that the main text used has been written to aid the statistically impaired. It is filled with many mind-easing comments etc. and, with the combination of this book and my lecturer at the University of Canterbury, I am actually learning to enjoy something I never thought I would enjoy. A big thank you to Arthur and Elaine Aron. You have helped me continue my studies in the field I wish to remain in - Psychology.

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I used Edition 2 of this book during my undergraduate education and, at the time, it seemed fine. I am in a graduate program and we are using the 6th edition and it is SO MUCH BETTER! I have compared them side-by-side and the improvement has been remarkable. Not that I have no complaints, mind you, but it's a solid book for psychology statistics.

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computers now. At the same time, the use of statistical software makes the understanding of the basic principles, as they are symbolically expressed in the definitional formulas, more important than ever. Students still need to work lots of problems by hand to learn the material. But they need to work them using the definitional formulas that reinforce the concepts, not using the computational formulas that obscure them. Those formulas once made some sense as timesavers for researchers who had to work with large data sets by hand, but they were always poor teaching tools. (Because some instructors may feel naked without them, we still provide the computational formulas, usually in a brief footnote, at the point in the chapter where they would traditionally have been introduced.)

2. Each procedure is taught both verbally and numerically—and usually visually as well. In fact, when we introduce every formula, it has attached to it a concise statement of the formula in words. Typically, each example lays out the procedures in worked-out formulas, in words (often with a list of steps), and illustrated with an easy-to-grasp figure. Practice problems and test bank items, in turn, require the student to calculate results, write a short explanation in layperson's language of what they have done, and make a sketch (for example of the distributions involved in a t test). The chapter material completely prepares the student for these kinds of practice problems and test questions.

It is our repeated experience that these different ways of expressing an idea are crucial for permanently establishing a concept in a student's mind. Many psychology students are more at ease with words than with numbers. In fact, some have a positive fear of all mathematics. Writing the formula in words and providing the lay-language explanation gives them an opportunity to do what they do best.

3. A main goal of any introductory statistics course in psychology is to prepare students to read research articles. The way a procedure such as a t test or an analysis of variance is described in a research article is often quite different from what the student expects from the standard textbook discussions. Therefore, as this book teaches a statistical method, it also gives examples of how that method is reported in the journals (excerpts from current articles). And we don't just leave it there. The practice problems and test bank items also include excerpts from articles for the student to explain.

4. The book is unusually up to date. For some reason, most introductory statistics textbooks read as if they were written in the 1950s. The basics are still the basics, but statisticians and researchers think far more subtly about those basics now. Today, the basics are undergirded by a new appreciation of effect size, power, the accumulation of results through meta-analysis, the critical role of models, the underlying unity of difference and association statistics, the growing prominence of regression and associated methods, and a whole host of new orientations arising from the central role of the computer. We are much engaged in the latest developments in statistical theory and application, and this book reflects that engagement. For example, we devote an entire early chapter to effect size and power and then return to these topics as we teach each technique.

5. We capitalize on the students' motivations. We do this in two ways. First, our examples emphasize topics or populations that students seem to find most interesting. The very first example is from a real study in which 151 students in their first week of an introductory statistics class rate how much stress they feel they are under. Other examples emphasize clinical, organizational, social, and educational psychology while being sure to include sufficient interesting examples from cognitive, developmental, behavioral and cognitive neuroscience, and other areas to inspire students with the value of those specialties. (Also, our examples continually emphasize the usefulness of statistical methods and ideas as tools in the research process, never allowing students to feel that what they are learning is theory for the sake of theory.)

Second, we have worked to make the book extremely straightforward and systematic in its explanation of basic concepts so that students can have frequent "aha" experiences. Such experiences bolster self-

confidence and motivate further learning. It is quite inspiring to us to see even fairly modest students glow from ha...

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