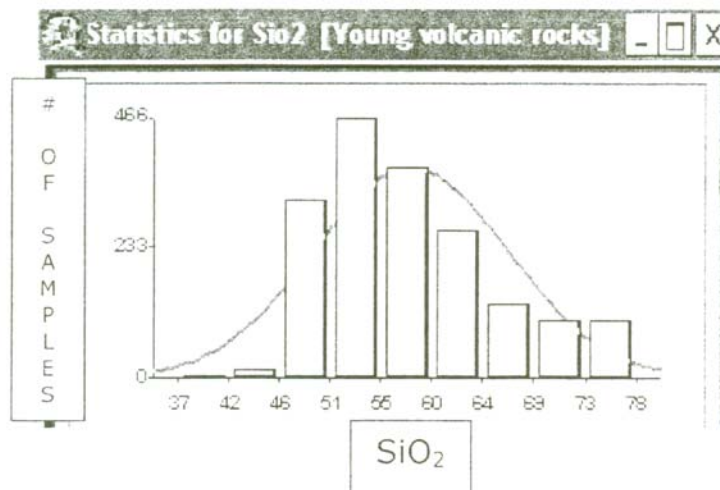


## Reading the histogram

**Q. What does the histogram tell me?**

A. The histogram indicates the number of samples having a silica content within a particular range. For example, 466 samples contain between 51% and 55% silica according to the histogram below, and somewhat more than 233 samples contain between 60% and 64% silica.



**Q. What does the red line tell me?**

A. In this course, the red line is meaningless. Ignore it.

**Q. Does the histogram tell me if any of the samples are felsic?**

A. Yes. According to the information in question I.2 on p. 3 of the tutorial, felsic samples contain more than 65% SiO<sub>2</sub>. By examining the histogram, you see that quite a few samples contain more than 69% SiO<sub>2</sub>. In fact, quite a few samples contain between 73% and 78% SiO<sub>2</sub>. Clearly, many samples are felsic. Similarly, you can tell if some samples are mafic or intermediate by examining the histogram.