

Sociology 3220
Introduction to Social Statistics
Fall 2018
0131 STAT
Tuesdays/Thursdays 1:00 pm -2:15 pm

Professor: Shirin Montazer, PhD

Office: 2270 FAB

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 11:30-12:30 pm

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Course Text:

Levin & Fox, Elementary Statistics in Social Research: The Essentials 3rd Ed

ISBN-10: 0205638007

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Students are encouraged to obtain a free rental copy of SPSS. You can obtain this software by emailing clearinghouse@wayne.edu and supplying your name, email address, access ID and the course name and number.

Students should have a calculator capable of doing square roots.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the basic language and methods of quantitative analyses in the social sciences. The teaching approach involves extensive use of examples in order to illustrate the central ideas, techniques, and interpretations of quantitative methods. Topics range from basic univariate and descriptive techniques to more sophisticated bivariate and multivariate techniques—including Chi-square, and Student t-test, Correlation and Regression analysis. The course will also discuss ways of presenting quantitative information, and how to analyze raw data both by hand and with the use of SPSS. By the end of the semester you should be able to pose and test bivariate hypotheses, conduct univariate and bivariate statistical analyses either by hand or with computer applications, and reach conclusions based on an inferential statistical analysis.

Statistics is a cumulative subject. If you fall a few weeks behind it is very difficult to catch up. Students who want to do well in this course are encouraged to come to class with questions and READY TO WORK. **Please bring the required text book, pencil and a non-scientific calculator to every lecture!**

I will also post formula sheets and other helpful handouts on canvas before some of our lectures. Please check canvas regularly and print any formula sheets and/or tables that I post and bring them to class.

The purpose of this course is to teach students:

- The logic of statistics in social science research
- The different methods of descriptive and inferential statistical analyses
- Mathematical calculations and explanation of a number of methods
- To compute descriptive statistics by hand and using SPSS
- To carry out bivariate techniques by hand and using SPSS and interpret results.
- To understand how statistics can be used to answer research questions and test hypotheses.
- To love statistics and see that numbers are not inherently scary!!!

General Course Policies

Attendance: Due to the large number of students in this class, I cannot take attendance every day. However, I will take attendance several times (the specific number is up to me). I might take attendance at the beginning, in the middle, or end of the lecture. To get the full 7%, students must be present (N-1) times. For example, if I take attendance 7 times, to get the 7% students must have been present 6 (7-1) times. Afterwards each missed class will result in a deduction in your attendance. ***You cannot make up in-class work*** for days you are absent and since the days I take attendance are random, students cannot make-up missed days. **Students arriving after I have taken attendance will be counted as absent. If you do arrive late, please sit in the back of the class and DO NOT DISRUPT THE CLASS.**

EXTENSIONS AND MAKEUP TESTS. I permit makeup test in the case of illness or death in the family or dire emergencies. I must be notified as soon as possible of these circumstances. Please send me an e-mail with your full name, and student number. I must have a written note from a health care provider or a funeral director or documentation of the emergency before you receive an extension or take a makeup test.

<http://canvas.wayne.edu>

Canvas is an important part of this course. Power point slides will be ***posted before each class session.***

Computers are available in all WSU libraries. Sometimes it is difficult to print out everything you need for the class at the libraries, as there are heavy demands on the printers and long waiting times. I suggest you consider using the Social Science Data Lab. It is on the second floor of the Faculty Administration Building. You can use your one card to print the slides. Print multiple slides on each page to save money.

Assignments. Students are required to complete all assignments by the due date. Students who have difficulty with a particular assignment are expected to contact the instructor or TA to discuss these problems **prior to the assignment due date.** Assignments not completed by the due date will not be eligible for full credit and will be evaluated at the instructor's discretion.

Reading. Students are required to read all course materials by the time class begins. Please ask questions if you are confused by the course text.

Office Hours. Office hours are designed for me or TA to answer specific questions or assist with specific aspects of an assignment. Please come to office hours with questions ready and attempt to complete assignments independently prior to coming to office hours. Also, please e-mail me

/TA to let us know that you will be coming to see one of us so that we can make sure to be in our offices.

Focus. Students are expected to be focused on class presentations during class time. **Cell phone use in class is strictly prohibited.** When we are using computers the computer must be used for class purposes only. Students may not use lab computers for any other purpose during class periods.

Final Grades. Final grades submitted by the instructor are **final.** If you believe that there has been a clerical error or other mistake you may inquire for an accounting of your grade. However, grades will be based solely on your scores on course assignments and will not be arbitrarily adjusted at the end of the term. Further, attendance is a free 10 points for those students that are present for every class. Students who ‘need’ a particular grade should ask me early in the semester about whether they are on track and should attend every single lecture.

Academic Honesty. Students are expected to display academic integrity in all of their work for this course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism. Any student suspected of dishonesty in their work will receive a zero for the assignment in question and referred to the department chair for further disciplinary action. If you have any questions about academic honesty, please contact me.

Honor Code. Students are bound by the Wayne State University honor code which states: “Wayne State University holds its students to the highest academic standards. Pride in the University and in oneself requires students to maintain an environment free from any breach of academic honesty. As lifelong representatives of Wayne State, we seek to cultivate honor, integrity, and civility in order to ensure that we earn our degree honestly and that we provide an ethical platform for our continued success.”

Registration. Beginning the fifth week of class students are no longer allowed to drop but must withdraw from classes. It is the student’s responsibility to request the withdrawal through the registrar’s office. Failure to do so will result in a grade of F. Students must be passing at the time of the request to get a ‘WP.’ After November 11th you cannot withdrawal from the course and will receive a letter grade. Incomplete ‘I’ grades are not given in this class. Students who are not registered for this course may not attend course meetings.

Disability. If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. The SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-202-4216 for videophone use. Once you have met with your disability specialist, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your accommodations. Student Disability Services’ mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University. You can learn more about the disability office at www.studentdisability.wayne.edu.

Course Requirements and Grading

- 1) Attendance: Attendance is worth 7 %, see attendance policy above.

- 2) Assignments: There will be 3 assignments worth a total of 45%. See the course schedule for due dates– some will require hand calculations and calculations with the use of SPSS.

- 3) Tests: There will be 3 tests worth a total of 48%.

Grade Chart:

Evaluation

Assignment	15%
Assignment	15%
Assignment	15%
Test 1	16%
Test 2	16%
Test 3	16%
Attendance: Class	7 %
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TOTAL	100%

Grades (%): A (90-100) A- (85-89) B+ (80-84) B (75-79) B- (70-75) C+ (67-69) C (63-66) C- (60-62) D (50-59) F (<50)

Tentative Course Schedule –Subject to change

Week	Heading
August 30	Chapter 1
September 4 September 6	Chapter 2
September 11 September 13	Chapter 3
September 18 September 20	Chapter 4 Tutorial before Test 1
September 25	Lab 1 Location: Lab A and Lab C –UGL
September 27	<u>Test 1</u> (All material from August 30 to September 20)
October 2 October 4	Chapter 5 <u>Due: Lab Assignment 1</u>
October 9 October 11	Chapter 6
October 16 October 18	Chapter 7 (P.g.151 – 170; 179-181) Chapter 7 (P.g.151 – 170; 179-181)
October 23	Lab 2 Location: Lab A and Lab C -UGL
October 25	Tutorial before test 2
October 30 November 1	<u>Test 2</u> (All material from October 2 to October 18) Chapter 9 (P.g. 215 – 236; 239)
November 6 November 8	<u>Due: Lab Assignment 2</u> Chapter 9 (P.g. 215 – 236; 239) / Chapter 10
November 13 November 15	Chapter 11 Lab 3 Location: Lab A and Lab C -UGL
November 20 November 22	Flex day Thanksgiving
November 27	Tutorial <u>Due: Lab Assignment 3</u>
November 29 December 4	Tutorial before test 3 <u>Test 3</u> (All material from October 30 to November 13)
December 6	No Class – But can meet TA during class time in her office to discuss any grading concerns

** This is a *tentative* schedule. Unforeseen circumstances sometimes require flexibility in scheduling. If that occurs, I will notify students in advance and provide a revised schedule.