

**Sociology 3220**  
**Introduction to Social Statistics**  
**Winter 2020**  
**0106 Old Main**  
**Monday/Wednesday 1:00 pm -2:15 pm**

**Professor:** Shirin Montazer, PhD

**Office:** 2270 FAB

**Office Hours:** Dr. Montazer: Mondays 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm (and by appointment)

Megan (TA): Wednesdays 2:30-4:30

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Megan: [gj2266@wayne.edu](mailto:gj2266@wayne.edu)

**Recommended Course Material:**

\*Note: There are no required text books for this course. However, students who like to have access to a text book are encouraged to obtain (buy or rent) the following text book:

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

ISBN-10: 0205638007

ISBN-13: 978-0205638000

Students are encouraged to obtain a free rental copy of SPSS. You can obtain this software by emailing [clearinghouse@wayne.edu](mailto: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.

***This course was previously offered as SOC4220. Please make sure that you have not already taken this course under the previous course number.***

**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 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, ANOVA, 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**

**Method of Instruction:** Two weekly lectures

**Attendance:** Depending on the number of students in the class, I may not be able to 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 full points for attendance students must be present (N-1) times. For example, if I take attendance 7 times, to get the full points 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.

**Homework.** Students are expected to complete the assigned weekly homework. I will collect the homework several times during the course of the semester (the specific number is up to me). To obtain full points for the collected homework, at least 3 of the questions will have to be answered in full. Students are allowed to miss one homework submission. However, any other missed submission will result in a grade of zero. ***You cannot make up this portion of the course*** for days you are absent and since the days I collect homework are random, students cannot make-up missed days.

**Assignments.** Students are required to complete all lab assignments by the due date. Students who have difficulty with an 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.

**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 5 points for those students that are present for every class/lab. 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.

**Religious holidays** (from the online Academic Calendar). Because of the extraordinary variety of religious affiliations of the University student body and staff, the Academic Calendar makes no provisions for religious holidays. However, it is University policy to respect the faith and religious obligations of the individual. Students with classes or examinations that conflict with their religious observances are expected to notify their instructors well in advance so that mutually agreeable alternatives may be worked out.

**Student Disabilities Services.** If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The SDS office is located in the Adamany Undergraduate Library. The SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TTD only). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours or at another agreed upon time to discuss your needs. Students who are registered with Student Disability Services and who are eligible for alternate testing accommodations such as extended test time and/or a distraction- reduced environment should

present the required test permit to the professor at least one week in advance of the exam. Federal law requires that a student registered with SDS is entitled to the reasonable accommodations specified in the student's accommodation letter, which might include allowing the student to take the final exam on a day different than the rest of the class.

**Academic Dishonesty -- Plagiarism and Cheating:** Academic misbehavior means any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the institution or subvert the education process. All forms of academic misbehavior are prohibited at Wayne State University, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Students who commit or assist in committing dishonest acts are subject to downgrading (to a failing grade for the test, paper, or other course-related activity in question, or for the entire course) and/or additional sanctions as described in the Student Code of Conduct.

- ***Cheating:*** Intentionally using or attempting to use, or intentionally providing or attempting to provide, unauthorized materials, information or assistance in any academic exercise. Examples include: (a) copying from another student's test paper; (b) allowing another student to copy from a test paper; (c) using unauthorized material such as a "cheat sheet" during an exam.
- ***Fabrication:*** Intentional and unauthorized falsification of any information or citation. Examples include: (a) citation of information not taken from the source indicated; (b) listing sources in a bibliography not used in a research paper.
- ***Plagiarism:*** To take and use another's words or ideas as one's own. Examples include: (a) failure to use appropriate referencing when using the words or ideas of other persons; (b) altering the language, paraphrasing, omitting, rearranging, or forming new combinations of words in an attempt to make the thoughts of another appear as your own.
- ***Unauthorized reuse of work product:*** submission for academic credit, without the prior permission of the instructor, of substantial work previously submitted for credit in another course. Example: submitting a paper in a current course that was written for, and submitted in, a previous course. o
- ***Other forms of academic misbehavior include, but are not limited to:*** (a) unauthorized use of resources, or any attempt to limit another student's access to educational resources, or any attempt to alter equipment so as to lead to an incorrect answer for subsequent users; (b) enlisting the assistance of a substitute in the taking of examinations; (c) violating course rules as defined in the course syllabus or other written information provided to the student; (d) selling, buying or stealing all or part of an un-administered test or answers to the test; (e) changing or altering a grade on a test or other academic grade records.

**Course Drops and Withdrawals:** In the first two weeks of the (full) term, students can drop this class and receive 100% tuition and course fee cancellation. After the end of the second week, there is no tuition or fee cancellation. Students who wish to withdraw from the class can initiate a withdrawal request in Academics. You will receive a transcript notation of WP (passing), WF (failing), or WN (no graded work) at the time of withdrawal. No withdrawals can be initiated after the end of the tenth week. Students enrolled in the 10th week and beyond will receive a grade. Because withdrawing from courses may have negative academic and financial consequences, students considering course withdrawal should make sure they fully understand all the consequences before taking this step. More information on this can be found at: <https://wayne.edu/students/register/dropping>.

### ***Student services:***

- The Academic Success Center (Undergraduate Library) assists students with content in select courses and in strengthening study skills. Visit [www.success.wayne.edu](http://www.success.wayne.edu) for schedules and information on study skills workshops, tutoring, and supplemental instruction (primarily in 1000 and 2000 level courses).
- The Writing Center is located on the 2nd floor of the Undergraduate Library and provides individual tutoring consultations free of charge. Visit [clasweb.clas.wayne.edu/writing](http://clasweb.clas.wayne.edu/writing) to obtain information on tutors, appointments, and the type of help they can provide.
- Library research assistance Working on a research assignment, paper, or project? Trying to figure out how to collect, organize, and cite your sources? Wayne State librarians provide on campus or online personalized help. Contact them at <http://library.wayne.edu/consult>.

**Class recordings:** Students need prior written permission from the instructor before recording any portion of this class. If permission is granted, the audio and/or video recording is to be used only for the student's personal instructional use. Such recordings are not intended for a wider public audience, such as postings to the internet or sharing with others. Students registered with Student Disabilities Services (SDS) who wish to record class materials must present their specific accommodation to the instructor, who will subsequently comply with the request unless there is some specific reason why s/he cannot, such as discussion of confidential or protected information.

### ***Course Requirements and Grading***

- 1) Attendance: Attendance is worth 5%, see attendance policy above.
- 2) Homework: Homework is worth 10%, see homework policy above.
- 3) Lab Assignments: There will be 3 group (of 2 or 3) assignments worth a total of 45% (15% each). These assignments will be due by the end of lab each lab.
- 4) Tests: There will be 4 tests worth a total of 40% (10% each).

Grades (%): A (90-100) A- (85-89) B+ (80-84) B (75-79) B- (70-74) C+ (67-69) C (63-66) C- (60-62) D (50-59) F (<50)

### ***Honor Section***

The honors section of this course is a different course with different requirements from the non-honors section. Students registered in the honor's section, will have to complete an extra assignment.

***To switch sections, you need to drop the honors section and add the non-honors section. Students cannot change sections after the regular drop/add deadline and will be graded based on the section that they are officially enrolled in.***

Tentative Course Schedule –Subject to change

Week	Heading
January 6	<b>Lecture 1:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 1
January 8	<b>Lecture 2:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 2
January 13	<b>Lecture 3:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 3
January 15	
January 20	No Class – University Closed
January 22	<b>Lecture 4:</b> Chapter 4
January 27	<b>Lab 1 (Location: UGL Room: 3150)</b>
January 29	<b>Lecture 5:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 5
February 3	<b>Review before test 1</b>
February 5	<b><u>Test 1</u></b> (All material from <i>January 6 to January 22</i> )
February 10	<b>Lecture 6:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 6 (P.g 118 – 139)
February 12	<b>Lecture 7a:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 7 (P.g.151 – 170; 179-181) <b>DUE On Feb 12: Lab 1</b>
February 17	<b>Lecture 7b:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 7 (P.g.151 – 170; 179-181)
February 19	
February 24	<b>Review before test 2</b>
February 26	<b><u>Test 2</u></b> (All material from <i>January 29 to February 10</i> )
March 2	<b>Lecture 8:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 8
March 4	
March 9/March 11	<b>Spring Break – No Class</b>
March 16	<b>Lab 2 (Location: UGL Room: 3150)</b>
March 18	<b>Review before test 3</b>
March 23	<b><u>Test 3</u></b> (All material from <i>February 12 to March 2</i> )
March 25	<b>Lecture 9:</b> Chapter 9 (P.g. 215 – 236; 239) <b>DUE on March 25: Lab 2</b>
March 30	<b>Lecture 10:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 10
April 1	

April 6	<b>Lecture 11:</b> Suggested reading: Chapter 11
April 8	<b>Lab 3 (Location: UGL Room: 3150)</b>
April 13 April 15	<b>Review before test 4</b> <u>Test 4</u> (All material from <i>March 25 to April 6</i> )
April 20	<b>DUE on April 20: Lab 3 (Bring to F/AB 2270 by 2:30 p.m.)</b>

\*\* 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.