

Statistics for Sociology (SOCI 3330 001)

Contact Information

Dr. Joseph M. Simpson, Associate Professor of Sociology

Email: jsimpson@tamusa.edu ← THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO CONTACT ME

Office: 347E CAB

Student Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 -10:45 am, 12:15-12:30; 3:15 – 3:30 pm
or by Appointment [Book time with Joseph Simpson](#)

Course information

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Where: Senator Frank L. Madla 238

Course Description

In this class, you will be introduced to descriptive and basic inferential techniques and tests using major analysis software. Students will apply knowledge gained in this class through application to a hands-on, semester-long research project.

Open Source Text

[Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences](#)

by Jennifer Ivie; Alicia MacKay

Course Goals

- Understand basic statistical concepts such as probability, randomness, level of measurement, hypothesis testing, sampling, and error.
- Conduct descriptive and inferential statistical tests to analyze real world social phenomena including percent, proportion, mean, median, mode, standard deviation, interquartile range, probability, t-tests, chi square, correlation, and linear regression;
- Explore and work with secondary data sources in statistical software (e.g. Stata).
- Interpret results of statistical test for broad audience;
- Select the appropriate statistical test for a given research question and level of measurement.

Community Agreement

In addition to what is described in this syllabus the class will develop a set of community agreements for how we want to do what we want to avoid and what we want to create in the classroom.

Academic Integrity

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Academic Dishonesty for which a student is subject to penalty includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, multiple submission, misrepresentation of academic records, facilitating academic dishonesty, unfair advantage, violating known safety requirements and ethical misconduct. Engaging in one of these activities may result in a zero for the assignment or a grade of "F" for the course. All students are responsible for being familiar with the Academic Dishonesty Policy, which may be found in the Texas A&M University-San Antonio Student Handbook

No Use of Generative AI Permitted

SOCI 3330 assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

Academic Freedom

Academic freedom is the principle that supports a welcoming academic environment where open inquiry, critical analysis and intellectual growth are possible, and respectful debate is valued. By ensuring the right to express thoughts, challenge assumptions and pursue knowledge freely, academic freedom not only enriches individual growth but also upholds the integrity of higher education as a site of innovation and discovery. In this course, it is mutually agreed (by both instructor and student) that we support these principles of academic freedom.

Student Handbook 8.5.1 Academic Freedom

Students will be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views in any course of study and to withhold judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for

learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Students have the right to be evaluated for their participation and work in the classroom in accordance with the parameters as indicated in the course syllabus.

Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disability. If you believe you have a disability that may require accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. DSS is located at the Main Campus on the 2nd floor of the Central Academic Building in suite 210. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dss@tamusa.edu.

Classroom Courtesy

Courtesy is expected, especially when we are dealing with sensitive topics. For that reason, the following rules will be enforced.

- If you have questions, ask them. But do so in a respectful manner.
- All comments made to classmates and/or the instructor must be respectful. This includes comments made through private channels such as email.
- If you are uncomfortable about a statement made by any other student, notify me as quickly as possible.
- Do not link to other online information or send links to other websites without consulting me first. There is a great deal of "information" on the Internet that is inappropriate and/or incorrect.

Any statement that is discriminatory or disrespectful toward any group of people or that creates a forum hostile to others will not be tolerated. It is possible that comments will not be intended as discriminatory or disrespectful but may be interpreted as such. In these cases, I will discuss why the statement is inappropriate the first time. Use of identified terms or phrases after that will be interpreted, as intentionally disrespectful and appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken.

Attendance

You are expected to attend class. You are expected to participate throughout the semester. Your grade is directly tied to your class attendance. If you want to get an

"A" you must attend 90% of class time. This allows you to miss 3 days and still receive an "A." Work turned in late will receive a 10% penalty unless it is for an excused reason including:

- Hospitalization of you, a spouse, or a child (with proof of hospitalization emailed to me within 24 hours)
- Death of an immediate family member (with proof emailed to me within 72 hours)
- Military assignment that will prevent regular participation (with proof emailed to me BEFORE participation is missed)

As adults, you are expected to handle your own time. A normal 3-hour university course should require 2-3 hours of work outside the classroom for every hour in the classroom. That means 9-12 hours per week of work for each class. I will not accept late work without penalty for any reason other than those listed above. Please do not email me with requests for deadline extensions or to tell me why work was not completed on time.

Assignments

- ❖ Application Assignments: 25 points each (225 points total)
 - All applications are to be completed by the date listed in the schedule at 11:59 pm. An online drop box for each assignment will be under Course Content on blackboard.
 - All assignments must be turned in as a Microsoft Word document (*.doc or *.docx).
 - Take time to double check your assignment before submission. If you make a mistake you do have an additional attempt for each assignment. Do not waste your attempts.
 - If you turn in your assignment late you will lose 10% from your earned grade.
- ❖ Exams: 75 points each (225 points total)
 - There will be three exams.
 - Exams will be completed on Blackboard.
 - Exams will be open for 48 hours starting on the day the exam is scheduled.
 - Each student will have two attempts.

I may offer extra credit opportunities.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage	Required Points
A	100 to 90%	450 to 401 points
B	89 to 80%	400 to 356 points
C	79 to 70%	355 to 311 points
D	69 to 60%	310 to 266 points
F	59 to 00%	265 to 000 points

Course Schedule

Section 1: Data, Variables, and Descriptive Statistics

Week 1

Tuesday, August 25

Course Matters and [1. Introduction to Statistics](#)

Thursday, August 27

[2. The Vocabulary of Statistical Investigations](#)

Week 2

Tuesday, September 1

[3. Describing Data](#)

Thursday, September 3 Lab Day

[Introduction to Stata](#)

Week 3

Tuesday, September 8

[4. Measures of Central Tendency](#) [5. Measures of Variability](#)

Application #1 Due

Thursday, September 10 Lab Day

Week 4

Tuesday, September 15

[6. z-scores and the Standard Normal Distribution](#) and [7. Probability](#)

Application #2 Due

Thursday, September 17 Lab Day

Week 5

Tuesday, September 22

[8. Sampling Distributions](#)

Application #3 Due

Thursday, September 24 Lab Day

Week 6

Tuesday, September 29

Exam #1

Section 2: Inferential Statistics

Thursday, October

[9. Introduction to Hypothesis Testing](#)

Week 7

Tuesday, October 6

[10. One-sample t-Test](#) and

Thursday, October 8

Lab Day

Week 8

Tuesday, October 13

[11. Independent-samples t-Test](#)

Application #4 Due

Thursday, October 15 Lab Day

Week 9

Tuesday, October 20

[18. Chi-square](#)

Application #5 Due

Thursday, October 22 Lab Day

Week 10

Tuesday, October 27

Application #6 Due

Thursday, October 29 Lab Day

Exam #2

Section 3: Correlation and Regression

Week 11

Tuesday, November 3

[16. Correlation](#)

Thursday, November 5 Lab Day

Week 12

Tuesday, November 10

[17. Regression](#)

Application #7 Due

Thursday, November 12

Week 13

Tuesday, November 17

Multiple Regression (No Reading)

Application #8 Due

Thursday, November 19 Lab Day

Week 14

Tuesday, November 24

Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving

Week 15

Tuesday, December 1

Application #9 Due

Thursday, December 3 Lab Day

Finals Week

Tuesday December 8

Final Exam

12:00 PM – 1:50 PM