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, 3:30 – 5:15 pm or by
Appointment Book time with Joseph Simpson

Course information

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 pm – 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

- To develop the student's ability to conduct statistical analysis of quantitative data and understand statistical concepts;
- To increase the students' understanding of the appropriate use of analytic techniques in both descriptive and inferential methods, including mean, median, mode, standard deviation, probability, sampling, hypothesis testing, t-tests, chi square, correlation, and linear regression;
- To improve the student's ability to interpret statistical results involving univariate and multivariate statistical analysis;
- To develop the student's ability to use statistical and database software such as Stata and Google Documents;
- Students demonstrate the ability to interpret quantitative information presented in mathematical forms (e.g. graphs, tables, and diagrams) to analyze a real world problem

- Students demonstrate the ability to represent quantitative information in various forms (e.g. graphs, tables, and diagrams) to pose argument in the context of a real-world problem
- Students demonstrate the ability to apply a model based on quantitative information to formulate a solution of a real-world problem
- To give the student experience in exploring and working with secondary data to prepare the individual to conduct his/her own research.

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

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
Tuesday, January 20
Course Matters and 1. Introduction to Statistics
Thursday, January 22
2. The Vocabulary of Statistical Investigations

Tuesday, January 27
3. Describing Data
Thursday, January 29 Lab Day
Introduction to Stata

Tuesday, February 3
4. Measures of Central Tendency
Application #1 Due

Thursday, February 5
5. Measures of Variability

Tuesday, February 10
6. z-scores and the Standard Normal Distribution and 7. Probability

Thursday, February 12 Lab Day

Tuesday, February 17
8. Sampling Distributions
Application #2 Due

Thursday, February 19 Lab Day

Tuesday, February 24
[9. Introduction to Hypothesis Testing](#)

Thursday, February 26 Lab Day

Tuesday, March 3
Application #3 Due
Thursday, March 5
Exam #1
Tuesday, March 10: Spring Break NO CLASS

Thursday, March 12: Spring Break NO CLASS

Section 2: Inferential Statistics
Tuesday, March 17
[10. One-sample t-Test](#) and [11. Independent-samples t-Test](#)

Thursday, March 19 Lab Day

Tuesday, March 24
[13. Independent Measures ANOVA](#)
Application #4 Due

Thursday, March 26 Lab Day

Tuesday, March 31
[18. Chi-square](#)
Application #5 Due

Thursday, April 2 Lab Day

Tuesday, April 7
Application #6 Due

Thursday, April 9
Exam #2
Section 3: Correlation and Regression
Tuesday, April 14

[16. Correlation](#)

Thursday, April 16 Lab Day

Tuesday, April 21
[17. Regression](#)
Application #7 Due
Thursday, April 23 Lab Day

Tuesday, April 28
Multiple Regression (No Reading)
Application #8 Due
Thursday, April 30 Lab Day

Monday, May 4
Application #9 Due

May 6-12
Final Exam