



SOC 332-71E

Course Syllabus
Spring 2013

Course Title: Methods of Statistical Analysis
Course Number: SOC 332 71E
Instructor: Dr. Monica M. Castator, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor
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Office: AB 211
Office Hours: Tue 2-5pm, Other times available by appt.

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructional Materials

- ◆ Text: Elementary Statistics in Social Research, 11th edition by Jack Levin and James Alan Fox., Pearson Education Group, Inc.
 - ◆ Other resources provided by the instructor
 - ◆ Handheld calculator with basic functions
 - ◆ Handout materials related to specific topics.
 - ◆ Scannable Test Answer forms: available in the book store, the deli, and in a vending machine outside the bookstore.

Course description and introduction

This course will familiarize students with basic statistical methodology and provide opportunities for practicing applications of these methodologies. Students will be required to master both the statistical theory and mathematical mechanics involved in basic statistics.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

The purpose of the course will be to gain a basic understanding of research analysis procedures. Students will demonstrate understanding of theory and procedure on each of the following topics:

- Organizing data
- Measures of Central Tendency
- Measures of Variability
- Probability and normal distributions
- Samples and populations

- Testing the differences between means
- Analysis of Variance

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| COURSE REQUIREMENTS |
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Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

The method of instruction for this course will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and practice individually and in groups. The specific activities used to engage students in mastering chapter material will be eight quizzes, four unit exams, and a final exam.

Grading System: Grades on final grade report will be based on the total number of points accumulated. Students may accumulate points through the following activities:

1. Three unit exams and the final exam (100 points each-50% of the course grade):
The exams questions will be a combination of objective (multiple choice), short answer, essay questions and statistical problems. The questions will be taken from assigned readings in the textbook and other materials, lecture notes, and class discussions. The exams will be announced no less than one week prior to the scheduled date.
2. A series of quizzes (25% of the course grade) over the assigned materials will be given on a periodic, announced or unannounced basis. Students are strongly encouraged to read assigned course material and come prepared.
3. Lab/Homework assignments: Lab and Homework assignments will comprise 25% of the overall grade.

Evaluation: The following point system will be used to determine the final course grade:

| % of Total points possible | Grade |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 90%+ | A |
| 80% | B |
| 70% | C |
| 60% | D |
| <60% | F |

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students must be able to successfully complete basic calculations in a handheld calculator, and send and receive email from a university email account, and login to the Ecollege course management system.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

Some materials and learning activities may be provided for this course through eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to:

<https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- **Help:** Click on the '*Help*' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...).

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Participation & Communication: I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful participants within the learning environment. This includes completing readings and other assignments on time and contributing to discussions in class. If you need to contact me outside of class, use one of the following methods.

1. Email is the best way to reach me as I check it daily. A reply will be sent within 24 hours.
2. Urgent matters may be handled by phone. My office number is (903) 875-7405.
3. I also maintain office hours on campus. These hours vary by semester but are always posted on my office door. In general, I will always be in my office at least one hour prior to class.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies:

Attendance and Preparation: Attendance and preparation for class are important. Each student is expected to be present, on time, and prepared for all class meetings unless other arrangements have been made in advance. Absence is defined

as not being present when the roll is called. If you must be late to class due to extraordinary circumstances, please quietly enter the room and take your seat. However, if roll call has already been conducted, you will remain on the roll of absentees for the day despite your late arrival.

If you are unable to complete the course, you should withdraw from it formally in accordance with University policy to you wish to avoid receiving a failing grade. College transcripts are a lifelong attachment!

- Failure to withdraw may result in the your name remaining on the class roll and you will receive an 'F' at the end of the semester.
- Deadlines for withdrawing from the course and their associated consequences to your college transcript are recorded in the course bulletin.
- If you experience difficulty in this course or in meeting the class schedule, contact the instructor immediately to discuss your options. Note that you may also be withdrawn from the course at the instructor's discretion, for excessive absences (defined as more than 1/8 of the term or 3 weeks).

General Policies and Procedures:

- Students are required to read the syllabus and course outline and be familiar with the policies contained therein.
- Students are required to complete all assigned reading on time and all written assignments.
- Students are required to take all exams as scheduled. If a student misses a scheduled exam and the absence is deemed excused by the instructor, s/he may request a make-up test. The student will have one week to make up the exam. If the student must miss an exam due to illness or family emergency, the student must contact the instructor IMMEDIATELY to let the instructor know of the impending absence. Makeup exams will be given only if the student has previously cleared the absence with the instructor, are by appointment only and may be different from exams taken in class.
- Students are required to attend all class meetings, arrive on time and actively participate in class discussions and activities.
- Students are required to pass all exams and complete all writing assignments with a final average grade of 60% or better in order to pass the course.

Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Disciplinary action for these offenses may include any combination of the following:

1. Point deduction on an assignment.
2. Failure for an assignment.
3. A grade of zero for an assignment.
4. Failure for the course.
5. Referral to the Academic Integrity Committee or department head for further action.

6. Referral to the Dean of the College of Education and Human Services, Business and Technology, Arts and Sciences, or Graduate School as appropriate.
7. Referral to the University Discipline Committee.
8. Communication of student's behavior to the Teacher Certification Office and/or Dean of the College of Education as constituting a reason to bar student from entering into or continuing in a teacher certification program. Procedures, A 13.04, 13.12, 13.31, and 13.32

University Specific Procedures:

Students with 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 disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library

Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*). *Note that behavior deemed by the instructor to be disruptive behavior may result in being dropped from the course.*

Disclaimer:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced by the instructor in class or via email. Students who do not attend class, or check their email assume full responsibility for missing changes to the course.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

| SOC 332 - Intermediate Methods of Sociological Analysis | |
|--|---|
| Tentative Course Schedule Dr. Monica M. Castator, PhD | |
| Date | Assignment |
| (Dates subject to change as we progress.) | Course Introduction |
| 15-Jan | Chapter 1. Why the Social Researcher Uses Statistics. |
| | Data Description |
| 22-Jan | Chapter 2. Organizing the Data. |
| 29-Jan | Chapter 3. Measures of Central Tendency |
| 5-Feb | Chapter 4. Measures of Central Variability |
| 12-Feb | Exam 1 |
| | FROM DESCRIPTION TO DECISION MAKING. |
| 19-Feb | Chapter 5. Probability and the Normal Curve. |
| 26-Feb | Chapter 6. Samples and Populations. |
| 5-Mar | Exam 2 |
| | DECISION MAKING. |
| 19-Mar | Test/Course Progress Review |
| 26-Mar | Chapter 7. Testing Differences Between Means. |
| 2-Apr | Chapter 7. Testing Differences Between Means. |
| 9-Apr | Exam 3 |
| 16-Apr | Chapter 8. Analysis of Variance. |
| 23-Apr | Chapter 8. Analysis of Variance. |
| 30-Apr | Exam 4 |
| 7-May | Final Exam |

That's it... I hope you have a great experience in this course!

Dr. Castator