

**CED 611, Intermediate Graduate Statistics  
COUN 613, Advanced Statistical Techniques  
PSY 681, Intermediate Statistics  
Spring 2013**

Instructor: Marcelo F. Pinto, Ph.D.

## CONTACT

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**When sending an e-mail message, please start the subject line with your course number (e.g., CED 611).**

Please limit all communication to course-related issues (i.e., no chain letters, jokes, or other unrelated messages).

If you leave a voice message, include your full name, the course, and callback number.

For course-related messages, I may send a response to the entire class if doing so benefits all students. For individual questions or concerns, your messages will always be confidential.

I will respond within a reasonable time. If you receive no reply within *two school days*, please re-send the message as I may not have received it.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Textbook. *Discovering Statistics Using SPSS* by Andy Field. Sage Publications (2009). Third Edition. ISBN-10: **1847879071** | ISBN-13: **978-1847879073**

Software. SPSS Statistical software (version 17.0 or higher are recommended).

- You can purchase and download a copy from <http://www.onthehub.com/spss/>.
- You can also get a copy from <http://studentdiscounts.com> (can be installed on two computers); you may want to share the cost with a fellow student to minimize your cost. Be sure to select the **Statistics Standard Grad Pack**. You can get a 6- or 12-month license.
- SPSS is installed on computers in the student lab at the Mesquite Metroplex Center and various labs on the Commerce campus.

## CLASS NOTES AND PRESENTATIONS

Class notes for each session will be available on eCollege; you can print and use them as you listen to the lecture so you can focus on listening rather than taking notes. Class notes will be in Doc Sharing under the appropriate week. Presentations and datasets for the homework will also be there.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to provide graduate students with an introduction to statistics and is approved by the Graduate School as a Level III research tool. The emphasis in this course will be upon understanding statistical concepts and applying and interpreting tests of statistical inference. Content will include but not be limited to: the application of selected inferential statistical procedures, including advanced correlational methods, multiple regression, t-tests, ANOVA, two-way factorial ANOVA, reliability and other advanced procedures. Computer

software (SPSS) will be employed to assist in the analysis of data for this course. Students should have access to a computer, SPSS software, and the Internet. This access is available at the Mesquite Metroplex Center and on the Commerce campus in certain computer labs.

### Course Objectives:

Develop and demonstrate an understanding of

- How interesting and fun statistics can be
- The uses and limitations of statistical software
- The reasoning and assumptions underlying the inferential statistical process
- Exploratory data analysis to explore assumptions
- Reliability, particularly as it applies to surveys
- Linear regression and multiple regression
- Analysis of variance (ANOVA)
- Factorial ANOVA, including post hoc and multiple comparisons
- The appropriate application and interpretation of inferential tests applied to ANOVA and multiple regression
- How to write a simple description of methodology and results from analyses

### GRADING

Test and assignments must be submitted by the due date. Barring reasonable extenuating circumstances, **late work will not be accepted nor will quizzes or exams be reopened.** Failure to complete work will result in a score of zero on the assessment or assignment. Please contact the instructor **in advance** or **immediately** if a concern or extenuating circumstance arises that may impact your ability to complete the work.

The course grade will be determined by the following combination of criteria:

- **Assignments (35% of course grade).** Tasks will be assigned each week. Typically, it will consist of running and interpreting some form of data analysis. Completing or attempting the homework is very important for successful completion of this course because it gives you an opportunity for application and practice. It is expected that mistakes *will* occur in practice; therefore, incorrect (as opposed to incomplete or partially complete) assignments typically do not result in significantly low scores. For that reason, do not assume that high homework grades represent readiness for success on quizzes or exams. Deductions will be made for poorly organized assignments or incomplete responses.
- **Quizzes (25% of course grade).** Weekly quizzes cover readings, homework, and additional materials assigned during the week. Your knowledge of statistics is cumulative; therefore, quizzes may require you to draw on previously learned materials. Quizzes may include interpreting an SPSS printout. Quizzes are timed, and you must complete them by the due date.
- **Comprehensive Midterm Examination (20% of course grade).** The midterm examination covers all materials taught up to that point in the course, including

theoretical and practical components; you may also be asked to analyze data and interpret results. The exam is timed, and you must complete it by the due date.

- **Comprehensive Final Examination (20% of course grade).** The final examination covers all course materials taught in the semester. It is similar to the midterm examination, though more extensive. The exam is timed, and you must complete it by the due date.

**Final Course Grade:** The following final grading scale is used to determine the final grade based on the weighted average of the course work: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; F = 0-69.

## DUE DATES FOR ONLINE ACTIVITIES OR ASSIGNMENTS

Texas A&M at Commerce works on Central Time (UTC -6:00). Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are closed typically at 11:59 p.m. (Central time) on the due date.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

**eCollege Technical Concerns.** Contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org). For the HelpDesk, call (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511. To reach the Online Chat, click the "Live Support" tab within your eCollege course.

**Other Questions or Concerns.** Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department for questions or concerns. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions about course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, call 903-886-5511 Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

## WITHDRAWING/DROPPING FROM THE COURSE

Students are responsible for following University procedures to drop a class. If you stop attending the class for any reason, you must initiate the process of dropping, or you will receive a grade. **THE LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS is April 30, at 5 p.m. Plan to initiate the withdrawal process several days in advance to allow time for all the required procedures.**

## PARTICIPATING AND KEEPING UP WITH THE COURSE

Online courses offer flexibility because you can work on the materials when convenient; **however**, this is **not a self-paced course**. You must keep up with studying and completing weekly assignments by their due dates throughout the semester. It is recommended that you should plan a minimum of 6 to 8 hours weekly to work on this course consistently. After 2-3 weeks, you will be able to gauge your individual needs and adjust your study time.

You should have a working e-mail address associated with your eCollege account. Please check your mail for messages daily. Announcements may also be posted to eCollege. It is the student's responsibility to stay abreast of course activities and changes.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. This syllabus and course description are provided as general guidelines to help you plan. Circumstances may lead to changes to the syllabus or course schedule at the instructor's discretion. Any changes will be communicated to the class; however, it is the student's responsibility to keep up with any changes. If you miss a class in face-to-face course, be sure to check with classmates or the instructor to determine whether any changes were made while you were away. If you're taking this course online, check your e-mail and the course for messages as frequently (daily if possible).

2. **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](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

<http://web.tamuc.edu/studentLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

3. 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). Follow all guidelines of academic honesty. If you cheat or fail to complete assignments on your own in any way, you will receive a failing course grade and be subjected to further disciplinary action at the discretion of the institution. If in doubt whether any action is in violation of academic honesty guidelines, consult the instructor.
4. Back up all your work and graded assignments during the semester in case you are asked to resubmit or redo an assignment. Keep track of your grades and save all records. If there are any discrepancies, you may be asked to show a backup copy.
5. **Never** fax or mail (U.S. Mail or otherwise) anything to me without first making arrangements. Turning in assignments and projects **on time** and **as assigned** (online or in person) is the responsibility of the student. If we make alternative arrangements, **always** keep a copy of the assignment in case the assignment is not received.
6. **University closing due to weather.** Check <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/> regarding class cancellations. Also, check KETR radio on 88.9 FM and television channels 4, 5, and 8 (channel 7 for Tyler & Longview Area). This information is somewhat irrelevant for online courses.