Instructor: Dr. Jiaming Sun
Office Location: SS 205
Face to Face Office Hrs: M W: 9 am - 11am or by appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5322
Office Fax: 903-886-5330
Email: Jiaming_sun@tamu-commerce.edu

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Lectures:** T 4:30 pm - 7:10 pm (SS 312) meets 1/20/2015 through 5/15/2015

**Schedule for Lab Practice:** TBD

This syllabus is intended to help you clearly understand the course goals, expectations, testing methods and topics we are going through so you may maximize your performance. It should also help you to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings that will affect your grade adversely.

**Text**

- Additional materials will be posted in the course website.

**Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

This course provides an advanced statistics for graduate students who have complete basic descriptive and inferential statistics courses. This course emphasizes procedures that are especially appropriate for social science data analysis and for completion of your research proposal designed in your SOC 575 course. The main goals of the course are:
To review basic statistical symbols and be able to think graphically based on statistic data;
To enhance understanding about key concepts in statistics in sociological literature that employs data analysis;
To acquire the ability to use appropriate statistical techniques to answer research questions;
To learn how to organize, analyze and present statistical data for research papers, particularly for your master thesis;

The course also provides an introduction to using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) and STATA (The name "Stata" is a portmanteau of the words "statistics" and "data") to set up data files, manipulate variables and run statistical programs.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

This course is an eCollege online supporting course (a hybrid course or web-enhanced course). eCollege is a campus wide web-enhanced internet teaching and learning support system. Students taking this course will be able to surf the online course website, get reading material, download and upload assignments, take online quizzes and exams, check grades and cumulative points with percentiles anytime online while having regular face to face in class lectures. If you are not familiar with the use of eCollege or the Library Online Services, please avail yourself of the online tutorials which is available through your MyLeo web page.

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

Lecture Slides (PowerPoint)
The PowerPoint lessons used during classes will be transferred into HTML file and uploaded into eCollege after each chapter finished. These online lessons should help you keep track of the course content and the topics we lectured. Keep in mind, however, that these online lessons should NOT keep you from taking your own notes or from attending classes. Most questions in your quizzes and exams will be discussed in lectures in classes.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

As per the university rule, students taking one course with three credits hours are expected to spend the same amount of time as
attending lectures on out of class activities (three hours in class, and three hours out of class), such as reading, doing assignments, and preparing quizzes and exams.

**Attendance**  Students are required to attend all class meetings or participate in online instruction as offered by the instructor. Recovering missed lecture content or assignment information is the responsibility of the student. Office appointments will not be used to substitute for class attendance or online study. Fellow students may provide notes for recovery of missed information.

A student will have total 80 points for **full attendance** of class. The attendance points will not be given to those who are tardy or packing up early. Excessive tardiness may result in a further loss of points from your overall performance points. It can mean a difference of a final letter grade. Take it seriously.

**Assign/Quiz**  There will be some exercises in this course. Doing these exercises helps understanding class material and preparing the exams. Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. You will have plenty of notification sent by email. If you know you are going to be out of town and unable to access a computer, plan ahead. Late submission will cause a minimum 20% deduction of penalty for the first week, and then 10% each subsequent week late (up to 50 % deduction). No late submission will be accepted by the day and after taking the exams.

Make-ups will be given for students who have extraordinary circumstances but the grading will be an average of the two quizzes.

**Exams**  There will be two exams during the semester. The midterm exam will be taken in computer lab with open-book. Students may use the text and/or one sheet of compact set of notes arranged in convenient reference form. Students will be provided with study guide at the lecture and online prior to the exam. Make-ups or retaking the exam will be given for students who have extraordinary circumstances but the grading will be an
average of the two exams. The final exam is a written report based on your work on data process with the results of data analysis and conclusion in length about 24 pages including tables, charts” (the examples of a research report have been posted on eCollege).

**Grading Policy**

**YOU EARN YOUR OWN POINTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>80</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPSS Lab Practice</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Exercises</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (A Report of Data Analysis)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Final grades will be assigned on the following aspects and scale:

**A**: Truly exceptional and outstanding work. (450-500)
**B**: Solid, acceptable graduate-level work. (400-449)
**B-**: Near acceptable level for graduate work. (350-399)
**C**: Not acceptable level for graduate work. (300-349)

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND MATERIAL NEEDS**

This is a web-enhanced course and some obvious technological resources will be required. Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means that our course works best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0 or 8.0). Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

- Word processing software (Microsoft Word preferred);
- SPSS software (recommended);
- Some floppy diskettes or jump drive to use exclusively for this class;
- A speaker for watching online SPSS demos when student using computer at lab or at home;
• A binder or folder to organize and save computer instructions and output from programs run for lab. Bring this to lab each week;
• A hand calculator to prepare homework assignments and for use in class and during exams. Any basic calculator with a square root function will suffice.
• You are strongly recommended to have a computer with internet connections at home to complete course assignments and online quizzes.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Disruptive Behavior
"Disruptive behavior" includes but not limited being rude to other people, destructive (rather than constructive) criticism of another, arriving late repeatedly, sleeping during class, belligerent or aggressive behavior, and so on. These behaviors have no place in a college classroom. You have a right to maintain your own opinions and to disagree with others, but you must do so in a fashion that is conducive to learning and does not take the form of a personal attack on others. Minimally, you are expected to treat your classmates and your professor in a respectful fashion and they will return the favor. Any behavior that obstructs or disrupts the classroom teaching and learning environment will be addressed. Serious or repeated breaches in appropriate behavior may result in a degradation of your final grade in the course and may be referred to additional University authorities.

Cheating & Plagiarism
It should go without saying that every student is expected to do his/her own work. Department policy provides that anyone caught cheating in any form or fashion will receive an “F” for the course and may be subjected to further disciplinary action by the university. Plagiarism (the use of others’ words, phrases, and ideas in your writing without giving credit to the original author) is a form of cheating and not only violates academic ethical standards, but is against the law.

Policies on Enrollment, “X”, “DP,” “DF,” and Withdrawal
Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.
If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish you to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been registered, I won't be able to change. A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

Students should check the university catalog, current semester schedule, and other official sources for specific deadlines, policies, etc. It is the student’s responsibility to see that all university procedures are properly followed.

**Student Requiring Assistance**

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  
Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Email Correspondence**

In this course, e-mail is an essential corresponding method and supplement to lectures. This means that you can expect to hear from the instructor via emails regularly throughout the semester, such as using e-mail for reminders, clarifications, last-minute notifications, etc. Needless to say, students are expected to check email regularly in daily fashion (a couple of times a day). Conversely, you should feel free to contact the instructor via e-mail with questions, requests or problems that were not or could not be addressed clearly in classes (or online lectures).

You may access to your email account via myLeo - all my emails
sent from eCollege (and all other the university’s emails) will go
to this account. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege
email system or your myLeo email since the university spam
filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and usually the emails in
spam won’t be checked.

HOWEVER in order to avoid duplication of questions and
answers, please post all class related questions in the Virtual
Office. This will be our Q&A forum. It is likely that your peers will
have the same question. Emails of a personal nature or for a
bonus point should be sent individually to the instructor’s email
address via eCollege.

If you are having problems in class, please contact the instructor
immediately. Please understand that you should not contact the
instructor only at the end of the semester being unhappy with
your grade, asking for a way to change it.

### COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The course schedule is tentative and somewhat subject to change.
Although this course will follow the schedule, it is possible that some
adjustments will be made as we progress through the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Introduction syllabus. Review basic statistics. SPSS software and GSS data sets.</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>Measures of central Tendency and Variability. SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 4, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>Normal Distribution, SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Sampling and Sampling Distribution,</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>Statistical inference: Estimation. SPSS practice</td>
<td>Ch. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Significant tests, SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mar. 3</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Ch. 5-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar. 10</td>
<td><em><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar. 16</td>
<td>Cross-Tabulation, SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 10</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>Chi-Square Test. SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 11</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mar. 31</td>
<td>Measures of Association for Nominal and Ordinal Variables. SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr. 7</td>
<td>Linear regression and correlation. SPSS practice.</td>
<td>Ch. 13</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Apr. 14</td>
<td>Analysis of Variance.</td>
<td>Ch. 14</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Apr. 21</td>
<td>Writing Report of Data Analysis</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Apr. 28</td>
<td>Presentation of your reports of data analysis</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td><em><strong>Final Exam</strong></em>. As scheduled by the University</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Grading</td>
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