Course Description:

The Department of Sociology requires that all sociology major students be exposed to social theory, statistics, and research methodology. In this class, students will learn basic statistical techniques and their applications in sociological research. The course will begin with descriptive statistics, which include a review of basic mathematical concepts and methods used to summarize quantitative data. The rest of the course will be devoted to inferential statistics, which include statistical techniques for testing hypotheses and measuring the association between variables.

Prerequisite(s):

1.0 Sociology course at the 1000 level

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Antirequisite(s):


Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1) Understand the differences between descriptive and inferential statistics
2) Identify the appropriate use of quantitative techniques
3) Interpret the results of descriptive and basic inferential data analyses

Required Text(s):

Method of Evaluation

Homework One (May 6) 4
Homework Two (May 20) 4
Homework Three (June 10) 4
Homework Four (July 15) 4
Homework Five (July 31) 4
Midterm Exam (June 15) 40
Final Exam (August 4) 40

Evaluation Breakdown

Homework Assignment
There will be four homework assignments based on materials covered in the course. These assignments will account for 20% of the final grade in total. Unless appropriate documentation is provided, student who submit their assignments after the due date will have their grade reduced by a rate of 10% per day.

Midterm Exam
There will be one midterm exam based on materials covered in the course. This exam is worth 40% of the final grade. The exact format of this exam will be discussed later in the term.

Final Exam
There will be one final exam. Students are expected to be familiar with all the materials covered in the course. This exam is worth 40% of the final grade. The exact format of this exam will be discussed later in the term.

How to Contact Me
I will be available to respond to questions regarding the course during office hours. I also check my e-mail regularly and will do my best to reply within 48 hours.

How to Get Important Information
Sakai OWL (http://owl.uwo.ca) will be used to post course information, content, reminders, and important instructions regarding deadlines, expectations, requirements, etc. It is expected that students check OWL regularly to ensure to keep up to date on new and revised course content.

Grade Guidelines
The Department of Sociology has grade distribution guidelines that all instructors are required to follow. For this class, the class average is expected to range between 69% and 73%.
## Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Evaluation Breakdown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5/4</td>
<td>Course Overview/Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Homework One Due</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5/11</td>
<td>Basic Descriptive Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5/18</td>
<td>Central Tendency &amp; Dispersion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5/20</td>
<td>Homework Two Due</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5/25</td>
<td>Normal Curve: Theory and Application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6/1</td>
<td>No class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6/8</td>
<td>Sampling Distribution &amp; Estimation Procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6/10</td>
<td>Homework Three Due</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6/15</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>6/22</td>
<td>Hypothesis Testing: One-Sample Case</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6/29</td>
<td>Hypothesis Testing: Two-Sample Case</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>7/6</td>
<td>Bivariate Association: Chi-Square Test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>7/13</td>
<td>Bivariate Association: Nominal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>7/15</td>
<td>Homework Four Due</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>7/20</td>
<td>Bivariate Association: Ordinal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7/27</td>
<td>Bivariate Association: Interval-Ratio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>7/31</td>
<td>Homework Five Due</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>8/4</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Important Policies

**Policies for Assignment Deadlines**

Extension of deadlines or alternate dates for tests will be granted only for documented illness or compassionate reasons. Late submissions will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day. A Note on Plagiarism Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

**A Note on Plagiarism**

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (https://www.turnitin.com/).

**Policies on Examinations**

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests. However, students can bring scientific calculators during the midterm and final exam. Please also make sure to bring your own pencils.

**Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class**

Laptops are permitted in class, but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

**Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**

Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf. Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html.

**Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a Self-Reported Absence (SRA) form online provided that the absence is 48 hours or less and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy are met. Two important exceptions to this rule: SRAs will NOT be allowed for final examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course. Students whose absences
are expected to last longer than 48 hours, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences (Fall/winter term) or 1 self-reported absence (Summer term), the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds) to your Home Faculty Academic Counselling office.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

Accessibility Options

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.