



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 2205A - 001
Statistics for Sociology
Fall 2024

Delivery Method - in-person, Labs asynchronously

Instructor: Michael Haan, Associate Professor

Department of Sociology
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Teaching Assistants: Your primary TA's office hours and Zoom links are available on the lab assignment handout (to be uploaded to Brightspace on or before September 15)

Course Description: An introduction to the techniques of statistical analysis used by sociologists, including descriptive statistics, the normal curve, hypothesis testing and various measures of association.

Prerequisite(s): none

Anti-requisite(s): Biology 2244A/B, Economics 2122A/B, Economics 2222A/B, Geography 2210A/B, Health Sciences 3801A/B, MOS 2242A/B, the former Psychology 2810, the former Psychology 2820E, Psychology 2811A/B, Psychology 2830A/B, Psychology 2850A/B, Psychology 2851A/B, Social Work 2207A/B, Statistical Sciences 2035, Statistical Sciences 2141A/B, Statistical Sciences 2143A/B, Statistical Sciences 2244A/B, Statistical Sciences 2858A/B.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

- To provide the basic skills necessary for summarizing and analyzing statistical data.
- To develop an appreciation of the analytical and philosophical complexities of using numbers to describe people.
- To gain a basic knowledge of Stata, a popular statistical analysis program.

In addition to participation in the weekly sessions, there are a series of 'mini assignments' in the lab, each geared to helping you understand one or more components of statistical analysis. In many weeks, there will be both lectures and a lab session. In class we will discuss statistical theory and concepts, whereas in the lab the *practice* of statistical analysis will be the focus.

This is a statistics class, but no prior knowledge of statistics is assumed for the course. Online remedial resources (ie. <http://davidmlane.com/hyperstat/>) exist, and students are recommended to consult them if necessary. We will work with several datasets and Stata, a widely used statistics program.

Course Material:

- Haan, Michael, and Jenny Godley. *Statistics for Canadian Social Scientists, Third Edition*. © Oxford University Press. Available at the bookstore.
- A calculator capable of working with exponents and square roots, but **not** capable of storing text and/or equations.

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course Brightspace site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/home>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

How to Contact Me: I can be reached during my office hours or through email: mhaan2@uwo.ca

How to get important information:

I will periodically send information to you via Brightspace. I will also be available via email, and will answer any questions within 24 hours (it might take a little longer on weekends). If you ask a question that I think others in the class will be interested in, I reserve the right to send my response to everyone via Brightspace. I will not identify you as the person that asked the question.

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.

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Grades are allocated as follows:

Test 1: October 9	20%
Test 2: November 13	20%
Attendance:	15%
Mini-assignments (3 @ 5%):	15%
Final Exam (cumulative): TBA	30%

Policy on Exams

Every examination in this class (including the final) will be 3 hours long. It will be written in person, and only a calculator not capable of storing text is permitted. The calculator should be able to calculate exponents and square roots. No other devices or cheat sheets are permitted.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning:

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Student Absences:

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

University policy on academic considerations are described [here](#). This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.”

Students must familiarize themselves with the [Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#). Students missing course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the central academic consideration portal. Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term without supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically schedule during the last week of the term. Students should also note that the instructor may designate one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Absences from Final Examinations:

Students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Academic Counselling will determine eligibility to write a Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

Artificial Intelligence:

All assignments must be completed independently, without the aid of artificial intelligence (AI).

Academic Policies:

Please review the Department of Sociology “[Important Academic Policies](https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf)” document https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf for additional information regarding:

- Scholastic Offences
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Course Selection
- Absence from Course Commitments
- Missed Tests and Exams
- Religious Accommodations
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health
- Gender-Based and Sexual Violence statement