The University of Texas at Dallas
School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

EPPS 3405.501 Introduction to Social Statistics with Lab
Spring 2013
Time: Monday/Wednesday 7:00-9:00pm
Classroom: GR 3.402B

Professor: Rubia Valente
Email: rubiavalente@utdallas.edu
Office: GR.3.314
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm and by appointment

General Course Information

This course introduces students to the basic tools of statistics and shows how they are used in the analysis of social science data. A fundamental understanding of these tools is a critical foundation for social science research in many fields. The course covers descriptive statistics, inference from samples, hypothesis testing and the basics of regression analysis. This course is required of all social science majors and is a prerequisite for a required course in social science research methods within each discipline (for example, CRIM 3304, ECON 3304, GEOG 3304, PA 3304, or SOC 3304).

Course Prerequisite

College Algebra (Math 1314 or equivalent).

Course Format and Objectives

As in any statistics course, this class requires much work in and outside of the classroom. Active and informed participation is expected from every student. Class sessions will be a combination of lecture, discussion, and in-class exercises. Lecture material is intended to supplement, not review, the readings. Because the readings are a major source of learning, students are expected to study this material as it is assigned and come to class ready and prepared. At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Describe and explain the basic concepts of sample and population
- Understand and apply concepts of probability
- Formulate and test hypotheses in research models
- Apply statistical models to real world research questions
- Compute and interpret statistics in context
- Connect statistical findings to population and draw inference.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics by Neil J. Salkind 4th edition, Sage Publications. ISBN 978-1-4129-7960-3

A basic calculator that can take square roots and raise number to powers is required.

Hand-outs to be given in class.

Course Requirements

Homework: Throughout the semester you will have several take-home assignments. Turning assignments on time is expected from all students. However, I will accept late homework without penalty within 4 hours of its deadline. You will be penalized one full grade per day after the deadline and no assignments will be accepted after three days. No exceptions.

Quizzes: In order to ensure adequate reading of the textbook and comprehension of materials, throughout the semester you will have several quizzes. It is therefore imperative that you come to class well prepared. There will be no make-up sessions on quizzes, so please think twice before missing class.

Exams: Students will have three exams during the semester. These are designed to test your knowledge and understanding of materials covered in the readings and lectures. The exams are not cumulative. If you are late for an exam, you will not be given any extra time. If you know in advance that you will be unable to take any of the exams on the scheduled dates, please let me know at least a week in advance so arrangements can be made ahead of time. A make-up exam will be administered only if legitimate, written documentation is provided within three days of the scheduled exam date. If you are ill on the day of the exam, or have a family emergency (ex. death of a family member) you are required to provide written documentation pertaining to the reason for your absence. Also, it is your responsibility to email or call me before the scheduled exam time, so I know that you will be absent due to an illness or family emergency.

Extra-Credit: Students should focus on getting the actual coursework done first, before requesting extra credit. However, if there is an opportunity it will be announced in class and it will be offered to everyone.

Graded Activities:

Homework	**25%**
Quizzes	**15%**
Exam I	**20%**
Exam II	**20%**
Exam II	**20%**

Grading Scale:

Min	**Max**	**Grade**	**Min**	**Max**	**Grade**	**Min**	**Max**	**Grade**
97.0	100	A+	93.0	96.9	A	90.0	92.9	A-
87.0	89.9	B+	83.0	86.9	B	80.0	82.9	B-
77.0	79.9	C+	73.0	76.9	C	70.0	72.9	C-
67.0	69.9	D+	63.0	66.9	D	60.0	62.9	D-
0.00	59.9	F						

Course Policies

This syllabus is subject to revisions and changes at the discretion of the Professor. Any changes will be discussed in class and posted on e-Learning so you can plan accordingly.

Attendance policy: Regular class attendance and participation will be a deciding factor in all assignments and grades. Two unexcused absences will be allowed; a third unexcused absence will automatically lower your final grade five percentage points. If there are more unexcused absences, the same policy will apply subsequently, which could make you have to repeat the course. An unexcused absence refers to missing class for a non-university approved reason. Last minute emails and/or phone calls will not be accepted, unless in the case of a proven medical emergency. Only university-approved reasons and illness with written proof by doctor will be accepted as student absences, and must be reported within three days of the absence date. Regular tardiness can be a distraction to the class and a sign of disrespect to the instructor, thus three incidents will equal one unexcused absence. If you need to leave early, please let me know in advance at the beginning of class or through email.

Technology policy: Technology both within and outside the classroom should enable your learning experience, not hinder it. Cell phones are to be turned off during class. Each of you have a computer in this classroom. Use it wisely to take notes, see slides or work on Excel. If you use the computer to surf the web on non-class related sites know that you are doing so at your own risk.

e-Learning: e-Learning is used a lot in this class. This is how I will communicate with you. You are responsible for announcements made through e-Learning. Also, please select a forwarding address in your mail preferences if you do not regularly check your utdallas email.

Classroom Citizenship: I expect students to be attentive during class and to be courteous and polite during discussions. You are expected to listen respectfully to me and to other students when speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in this class. I respect all students and viewpoints and expect you to extend the same courtesy to your classmates and to me. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

University Policies
Information on university policies related to this and other classes may be found at http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies

General Warning:
Scholastic dishonesty will be severely punished. The student will be subject to university disciplinary proceedings. The *UTD Undergraduate Catalog* defines scholastic dishonesty as the following: "Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work of material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records."

Class Schedule

Week 1	Jan. 14	**Introduction to the course** Lecture Topic: Intro to Statistics and Syllabus Readings: Chapter 1
	Jan. 16	Lecture Topic: Reliability and Validity Ch. 6: Lab 1 Readings: Chapter 6
Week 2	Jan. 21	**No Class – Martin Luther King Day**
	Jan. 23	Lecture Topic: Descriptive Statistics and Central Tendency Ch. 2: Lab 2 Readings: Chapter 2
Week 3	Jan. 28	Lecture Topic: Variability Ch. 3: Lab 3 Readings: Chapter 3
	Jan. 30	Lecture Topic: Frequency Distributions Ch. 4: Lab 4 Readings: Chapter 4 and 21
Week 4	Feb. 4	**Exam I** **Due: HW # 1**
	Feb. 6	Lecture Topic: Hypothesis Testing Ch. 7: Lab 5 Readings: Chapter 7 **Due: HW # 2**
Week 5	Feb. 11	Lecture Topic: Normal Curves and Probability Readings: Chapter 8
	Feb. 13	Ch. 8: Lab 6 - Normal Curves and Probability Readings: Chapter 8

Week 6	Feb. 18	Lecture Topic: Significant levels Ch. 9: Lab 7
		Readings: Chapter 9
	Feb. 20	Topic: The Z-test
		Readings: Chapter 10 **Due: HW # 3**
Week 7	Feb. 25	Lecture Topic: T-Tests
		Readings: Chapter 11
	Feb. 27	Ch. 11: Lab 8 - T-Tests
		Readings: Chapter 11 **Due: HW # 4**
Week 8	March 4	Review for Exam II **Due: HW # 5**
	March 6	**Exam II in class**
Week 9	**No class: March 11 and March 13**	
	Happy Spring Break!	
Week 10	March 18	Lecture Topic: T-Tests
		Reading: Chapter 12
	March 20	Ch. 12: Lab 9 – T-Tests
		Readings: Chapter 12
Week 11	March 25	Lecture Topic: Z-Test
		Readings: No Readings
	March 27	Lecture Topic: Analysis of Variance
		Readings: Chapter 13 **Due: HW # 6**

Week 12	April 1	Ch. 13: Lab 10 Analysis of Variance
		Readings: Chapter 13
	April 3	Lecture Topic: Correlation Coefficients Ch. 5: Lab 11
		Readings: Chapter 5
Week 13	April 8	Lecture Topic: Correlation Coefficient Ch. 15: Lab 12
		Reading: Chapter 15
	April 10	Ch. 15: Lab 13 - Using Correlation Coefficient
		Reading: Chapter 15 **Due: HW # 7**
Week 14	April 15	Lecture Topic: Chi-Square and other Nonparametric Tests Lab 14
		Readings: Chapter 17
	April 17	Lab 15: Chi-Square and other Nonparametric Tests
		Readings: Chapter 17
Week 15	April 22	Lab 16: Chi-Square and other Nonparametric Tests
		Readings: Chapter 17 **Due: HW # 8**
	April 24	Review for Final Exam **Due: HW # 9**
Week 16	April 29	*No class study on your own*
	May 1	**Final Exam**

Have a Great Summer Break!

Student Information and Acknowledgement

EPPS 3405.501 Intro to Social Statistics with Lab

Student full name:

Preferred name:

Phone number:

Email Address:

Academic class: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

List all classes you are taking this semester:

Student Acknowledgement:

I have received, read, and discussed the syllabus for EPPS 3405 Introduction to Social Statistics with lab.

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Signature **Date**