

Social Statistics
Sociology 202
M-W-F 9:10 -10:00
SS 258
Spring 2008

Instructor: Dusten Hollist
Office: Social Sciences 321
Office Hours: M-F, 1:00p - 2:00p;
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OBJECTIVE

The goal of this course is to introduce you to basic statistical concepts and techniques. The information gained will provide you with a foundation to understand the statistics often visible in our daily lives, in the newspaper and other popular media (i.e. television and radio). It will also give you the tools needed to enroll in more advanced statistics courses, if you choose to do so. There are a variety of topics covered in this course. These will range from basic organization of data, graphic presentation of data, probability, sampling distributions and statistical inference.

TEXTS

Healy, Joseph F. 2005. *Statistics: A Tool For Social Research*, 7th Edition. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA.

Kranzler, John H. 2003. *Statistics for the Terrified*. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

The Healy text is required. The Kranzler text is optional. It is intended for students who have suffered negative experiences with math courses in the past and come here fearful of statistics. It contains learning strategies and ideas for understanding the concepts and practice behind the statistics we will be learning.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class Time:

Class time will be divided between presentation of the concepts that provide the foundation of statistical analysis, the actual nuts and bolts associated with the applications of the statistics, and interpreting what the results obtained allow us to say about the data and our research questions.

It is imperative that you respect the opinions and comments of other students in the course. Failure to respect other students or the instructor will result in removal from the class and an out-of class meeting with me in my office. Other disruptive behaviors such as talking out of turn, sleeping, or reading the newspaper will likewise not be tolerated.

Although attendance will not be taken (you are a grown-up now), you are expected to attend class. It will be very difficult to do well if you do not attend regularly. Unlike many other courses you might have taken, it will be difficult to catch-up and cram for exams. Statistics are based on a building-block principle where later ideas build upon previous ones. Make it a point to attend class! The TA and I will not provide notes or schedule special meeting times to go over material that is missed due to a non-university sanctioned absence.

Grades:

There will be five quizzes and five problem sets that will comprise the total points for the semester (See the reading and quiz schedule at the end of this document). Each of the quizzes is worth 50 points. Each of the problems sets is worth 10 points. Thus, there are a total of 300 points possible for the term. Final grades will be determined based on your average score out of the total points possible. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	90 to 100 percent	B	80 to 89 percent
C	70 to 79 percent	D	60 to 69 percent
F	59 percent or below		

Class Policies:

Each of the quizzes must be taken at the place and time they are scheduled. I **will not** accept late work. Exceptions will be made only for university sanctioned excuses (i.e. documented medical or family problems; university approved absences for athletic participation, field trips, etc..). Reasonable accommodations will be made for students who have a documented disability. Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations that are needed for the course. Late notification may result in the requested accommodations not being available. All accommodations must be approved through Disability Services for Students (DSS) in Lommasson Center 154 (243-2243).

Academic Honesty and Integrity (UM official statement):

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the university. All students must be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/index.cfm/page/1321>.

Final Note:

There will be times during the duration of the semester when you cannot figure something out. While I encourage you to master the concepts presented in this course on your own, you should not spend hours upon hours “hung-up” on something. I encourage you to develop a “study-buddy” or a group of “study-buddies” as a way to learn the information. Furthermore, class-time will always be open for questions and diagnosis of problems that emerge... so come prepared.

Reading and Quiz Schedule

Changes in the reading and exam schedule may occasionally be made. Advance notice of these changes will be made during class time.

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Martin Luther King, Jr Day No Class	Jan 23 rd : Introduction to Statistics Healey Ch. 1	Jan 25 th : Introduction to Statistics Healey Ch. 1
Jan 28 th : Basic Descriptive Statistics Healey Ch. 2	Jan 30 th : Measures of Central Tendency Healey Ch. 3	Feb 1 st : Measures of Central Tendency Healey Ch. 3
Feb 4 th : Measures of Dispersion Healey Ch. 4	Feb 6 th : Measures of Dispersion Healey Ch. 4	Feb 8 th : Quiz #1 Covers chapters 1-4
Feb 11 th : The Normal Curve Healey Ch. 5 Problem Set #1 Due	Feb 13 th : The Normal Curve Healey Ch. 5	Feb 15 th : The Normal Curve Healey Ch. 5
Feb 18 th : Washington-Lincoln Day No Class	Feb 20 th : Four Fundamental Concepts Healey Ch. 6	Feb 22 nd : Four Fundamental Concepts Healey Ch. 6
Feb 25 th : Estimation Healey Ch. 7	Feb 27 th : Estimation Healey Ch. 7	Feb 29 th : (Leap-Year) Quiz #2 Covers chapters 5-7
March 3 rd : Hypotheses Testing I Healey Ch. 8 Problem Set #2 Due	March 5 th : Hypotheses Testing I Healey Ch. 8	March 7 th : Hypotheses Testing II Healey Ch. 9

March 10 th : Hypotheses Testing II Healey Ch. 9	March 12 th : Hypotheses Testing II Healey Ch. 9	March 14 th : Analysis of Variance Healey Ch. 10
March 17 th : Analysis of Variance Healey Ch. 10	March 19 th : Analysis of Variance Healey Ch. 10	March 21 st : Quiz #3 Covers chapters 8-10
March 24 th : Spring Break Holiday	March 26 th : Spring Break Holiday	March 28 th : Spring Break Holiday
March 31 st : Chi-Square Healey Ch. 11 Problem Set #3 Due	April 2 nd : Chi-Square Healey Ch. 11	April 4 th : Chi-Square Healey Ch. 11
April 7 th : Nominal Level Association Healey Ch's. 12, 13	April 9 th : Nominal Level Association Healey Ch's. 12, 13	April 11 th : Veterans Day Holiday No Classes
April 14 th : Ordinal Level Association Healey Ch. 14	April 16 th : Ordinal Level Association Healey Ch. 14	April 18 th : Exam #4 Covers chapters 11-14
April 21 st : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 15 Problem Set #4 Due	April 23 rd : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 15	April 25 th : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 15
April 28 th : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 17	April 30 th : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 17	May 2 nd : Correlation and Regression Healey Ch. 17
May 5 th : Problem Set #5 Due	Thursday May 8 th : Final Exam 10:10-12:10 Covers chapters 15, 17	May 9 th :