
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE/SECTION: SOCIOLOGY 311 (L02)
TITLE : INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL STATISTICS I
SESSION: Fall, 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Lloyd L. Wong
OFFICE: SS 928
CONTACT: Phone: 220-6504: Email: llwong@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: MWF: 12 noon to 1:00 pm, or by appointment

LECTURES: MWF: 9:00 – 9:50 am in SB 105
LABS: W: 3:00 – 5:50 pm in KN 133

TEACHING ASSISTANTS: Kristen Desjarlais-deKlerk Sonja Schuetz
OFFICE: SS 911 SS 941
CONTACT: kdesjarl@ucalgary.ca sschuetz@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: see Lab Outline see Lab Outline

BLACKBOARD: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca> or <http://my.ucalgary.ca>

SOCIOLOGY WEBSITE: <http://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

SAFEWALK SERVICES: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point by ICT Food Court (primary) or Social Sciences Food Court (secondary).

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Healey, J. and Prus, S. G. (2010, 2013). Statistics: A Tool for Social Research, Second Canadian Edition. Toronto: Nelson Education.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory course in social statistics focussing on descriptive statistics for quantitative social research. It assumes that students have a basic understanding of mathematical operations. Students will learn the material through lectures, readings, and participation in the labs. In the lab sessions students will learn and use SPSS a statistical software package for the social sciences.

The course objectives are to provide students with the opportunity to learn the logic, meaning, computation, and application of basic descriptive social statistics as well as a brief introduction to inferential statistics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT EVALUATION:

The grade for this course will be based on two mid-term exams, a final exam, and three lab assignments.

1. Midterms and Final Examination

The two mid-term exams will be on **October 12th, 2012** and **November 16th, 2012** and the registrar will schedule the final exam in the exam period from **December 10th – 19th, 2012**. These exams may consist of multiple-choice, true-false, and short answer questions. All material related to the course in terms of lectures and assigned readings are possible examination topics.

2. Lab Assignments

There will be 3 lab assignments for this course and they will be of equal weight (10% each). Lab assignments will be handed out at least ten days before they are due and in total they will be worth 30% of the course grade. There will be a penalty of 10% per day (of the assigned grade) for late assignments except in cases of documented illness or extenuating circumstances. There is a mandatory \$15 lab fee, which will be collected during the second week of classes. We will not grade your first lab assignment until we receive your lab fee.

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor or TA if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for

requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

Deferred Final Exam Form:

Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf> Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects—including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation—must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

3. Breakdown, Weight, and Dates of Student Evaluation

Mid-term Exam #1	25%	Oct. 12 th
Mid-term Exam #2	25%	November 16 th
Lab Assignments	30%	As per Lab Outline
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>	To be scheduled by Registrar
Total	100%	

4. Letter Grade Assignment

95-100 = A+	67 - 71 = C+
90 - 94 = A	63 - 66 = C
85 - 89 = A-	59 - 62 = C-
80 - 84 = B+	54 - 58 = D+
76 - 79 = B	50 - 53 = D
72 - 75 = B-	00 - 49 = F

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Wk	Date	Topics	Healy&Prus
1	Sept.10	I. INTRODUCTION	Prologue & Ch. 1
2	Sept.17	II. DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS FOR ONE VARIABLE Basic descriptive statistics Graphing techniques	Ch. 2
3	Sept.24	Measures of central tendency	Ch. 3
4	Oct. 1	Measures of dispersion	Ch. 3
5	Oct. 08 Oct. 10 Oct. 12	Thanksgiving – no class Catch-up and/or review Mid-term Exam #1 (25% - chapters 1-3)	
6	Oct. 15	The normal curve and Z Scores	Ch. 4
7	Oct. 22	III. DESCRIPTIVE STATS FOR TWO VARIABLES Bivariate association for nominal variables	Ch. 11 (omit 11.5 and pp. 320-321)
8	Oct. 29	Bivariate association for nominal & ordinal variables	Ch. 11 & Ch. 12
9	Nov. 05 Nov. 09	Bivariate association for ordinal variables Class cancelled	Ch. 12 (omit 12.6 and 12.7)
10	Nov. 12 Nov. 16	Reading Day – no class Catch-up and/or review Mid-term Exam #2 (25% - chapters 4, 11, 12)	
11	Nov. 19	Bivariate association for interval-ratio variables	Ch. 13
12	Nov. 26	Bivariate association for interval-ratio variables- cont'd IV. INTRO TO INFERENCEAL STATISTICS Sampling and Sampling Distribution	Ch. 13 Ch. 5
13	Dec. 03	Sampling and Sampling Distribution-cont'd Catch-up and/or review	Ch. 5
14	??	Final Exam to be Scheduled by Registrar Between Dec. 10th –19th (20% - chapters 13 & 5)	