



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
Sociology Department Home Page: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

SOCI 311 Introductory Statistics I

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| • Fall 2018 | • Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm | • ENE 239 |
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LABS WILL TYPICALLY BE HELD IN THE TRI-FACULTIES LAB.

Labs will be Thursdays 3:30-6:15.

Instructor: Alex Bierman

Office: SS902

Email: aebierma@ucalgary.ca

Phone: 403-220-6226 (email is the best way to reach Dr. Bierman)

Office Hours: Wednesday noon-1 pm; Thursday 11 am to noon

Teaching Assistants:

Jie Miao (jie.miao@ucalgary.ca; SS945)

Hamid Akbary (akbary.sayed@ucalgary.ca; SS911)

Brody Trottier (btrottie@ucalgary.ca; SS919)

TA Office Hours: Forthcoming.

Course Description

Univariate and bivariate statistics for survey data. Topics include cross tabular analysis, the normal distribution, confidence intervals for means, hypothesis testing, Chi-squared and F distributions and bivariate linear regression analysis. In labs statistical software to analyze survey data will be used.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should have knowledge and understanding of the basic means of describing survey data, as well as how sociologists can use survey data to extrapolate to a population. This includes being able to identify levels of measurement, describing patterns of central tendency and dispersion within measures, estimating confidence intervals, and choosing the correct statistical procedure to answer a research question involving one variable or a relationship between two variables. Students should

be able to use Stata to describe distributions of categorical and continuous variables, as well as relationships between categorical or continuous measures, including confidence intervals and appropriate hypothesis testing. Students should also be able to use Stata to recode survey data and analyze variables for missing responses. This course is intended to provide students with the statistical skills to 1) prepare them for more advanced courses (including SOCI 315) and 2) facilitate reading and understanding of the wider sociological literature.

Required Textbooks

Levin, Jack and James A. Fox. 2007. *Elementary Statistics in Social Research: The Essentials, 2nd Edition*. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc.

This text should be available in the book store (please let me know if it is not). You may be able to find used copies of this book. If so, they should be acceptable for this course, but *make sure it is the edition we will be using in class*. We will be using the **SECOND** edition of the essentials version of this textbook.

Recommended Textbooks

Longest, Kyle C. 2014. *Using Stata for Quantitative Analysis, 2nd Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Staying in Contact

Class announcements may occasionally be sent out over e-mail, so you'll need to make sure that the university has your correct e-mail address and that your e-mail account is in working order. Due to the complexity of the course material, we prefer that you contact us by email for administrative purposes only. For instance, you may email us to schedule an appointment outside of office hours. When e-mailing, please put "SOCI 311" in the subject line of your e-mail. We will make every effort to reply to your e-mails within 24 hours, but it may take up to 24 hours to respond. Make sure to email all of the TAs and the course instructor when emailing a question—this will help to increase the response times to your emails.

A Brief Note on Email Etiquette

When emailing your professor, your email should always contain certain elements. First, "SOCI 311" should be in the subject line of the email. Second, your email should start out, "Dr. Bierman" or "Professor Bierman." You should then put the issue you are emailing about in the body of your email, using correct sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation. If you are emailing an assignment, you should indicate that the assignment is attached and, if the assignment is deferred, the reason for the deferral. You should also sign your name and include your student number. Please note that your instructor may ask that you re-send your email if it does not conform to these specifications. In addition, emails that do not include "SOCI 311" in the subject line may receive no response.

Lecture Notes

PowerPoint slides will be posted on D2L for most of the class lectures. Students should print out these slides and bring them to class or have them available on an electronic device

capable of note-taking. Students will still need to take notes, even if the PowerPoint slides are available. There are no lecture notes besides the PowerPoint slides, so a student who misses a class will need to get the additional lecture notes from another student.

Reading Assignments

Reading assignments will be given out over email as the class progresses. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the reading assignments.

Lab Assignments

The lab assignment is designed to be finished and turned in within the time allotted for lab. Labs should be turned in through the appropriate folder on D2L. However, lab may be turned in by the following Tuesday, at 12:30 pm, without penalty. This due date/time will allow us to have the lab graded by the following lab. If you do not turn in the lab by this date and time, the D2L folder will close and you will need to email your assignment directly to Dr. Bierman, in which case grade penalties for labs will apply (if the lab does not meet departmental policies for deferrals). In the case of a late lab, 50% will be deducted from the lab before any marks are deducted for errors. You cannot turn in sections of a lab assignment at different times. If you turn in an assignment partially completed, no additional aspects of the assignment will be accepted at a later time.

Please note that it is possible that concepts covered in lab may appear on exams. You should plan to attend both the lab and the lecture, and are responsible in all exams for any material presented in either lecture or lab. **Because a central purpose of the lab assignments is to prepare you for the exams, lab assignments that do not meet departmental policies for deferrals will not be accepted after December 6th at 12:30 pm.**

Exams

Only the final exam will be expressly cumulative, but all exams may be indirectly cumulative because they are likely to build on previous material. You will be permitted one 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet (front and back) of notes during each exam. Midterm dates are October 4th for exam 1 and November 8th for exam 2. Please note that these exam dates are tentative, and I will confirm the dates at least a week before the respective exam.

Midterms will be administered during your lab periods in ENE 239. The class will typically have 100 minutes to take an exam. If you arrive late for the exam, you will only have the amount of time remaining allotted for the exam. For instance, if you show up half an hour after an exam is handed out, you will have only 70 minutes to take the exam. Once you begin an exam, it is your performance during the allotted time which will be used to determine your grade. You will not be allowed to retake the exam, sections of the exam, or complete at a later date problems you may not have answered. If you believe that you may have an emergency which will interfere with your performance on the exam, or you arrive late because of an emergency, you need to talk to Dr. Bierman about it before you take the exam. Once you begin the exam, it is your performance on that exam, during the time

allotted for the exam, which will determine your grade. The only exception to this policy is if you must be hospitalized while you are taking the exam.

Grade Distribution

Labs	25%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam (Cumulative)	30%

Extra Credit

Extra credit assignments are not typically offered, but if an opportunity for extra credit arises, this opportunity will be given to the class as a whole. Individual opportunities for extra credit or to make up marks lost due to errors on an exam will not be allowed.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

A+ = 95 and over	B+ = 80-84.9999	C+ = 67-71.9999	D+ = 54-58.9999
A = 90-94.9999	B = 76-79.9999	C = 63-66.9999	D = 50-53.9999
A- = 85-89.9999	B- = 72-75.9999	C- = 59-62.9999	F = 49.9999 and lower

The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must either submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark, or meet with the instructor and discuss the basis for reconsideration. In the event of an in-person meeting, the instructor may not make an immediate decision regarding a change of grade. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same. Please note that it is Dr. Bierman, not a TA, who is responsible for all grade reappraisals.

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at MSC North Courtyard. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

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 Faculty 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.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Deferrals

When possible, please provide advance notice if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments 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 health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment 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 Department of Sociology.

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:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

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

https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.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).

Student Representation

The 2018-19 Students' Union VP Academic is Jessica Revington (suvpaca@ucalgary.ca).

For more information, and to contact other elected officials with the Student's Union, please visit this link: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/>

You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact>

Safewalk

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.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Student Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#)

[Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)