

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Sociology 315 Introduction to Social Statistics II
Winter, 2012

Instructor:	Dr. Jenny Godley	Class Hours: T, Th 9:30-10:45
Office:	SS922	Class Location: ST130
Office Hours:	T 8:30-9:30; Th 11:00-12:00	Lab Hours: T 15:30 - 18:20
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Emergency evacuation:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point by the ICT Food Court. (Alternate assembly point: Professional Faculties Food Court). <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/75>

* Please use email for administrative concerns only. Substantive issues should be addressed in person, either in class, during office hours, or during an appointment time.

NOTE: this course outline is subject to revision. All changes will be announced in class.
Last revised 2 January, 2012

Overview:

This is the second of two required statistics courses in Sociology at the University of Calgary. This course focuses on inferential statistics. This course assumes that you are familiar with all the material covered in SOCI311, which includes calculating descriptive statistics up through bivariate regression and basic use of the statistical software package, SPSS. Together, these two courses will provide you with the basic tools necessary to conduct, interpret and critique quantitative social science research.

In this course, you will learn how to calculate and interpret inferential statistics. You will become proficient using SPSS for inferential statistical analyses and you will conduct an independent quantitative research project using publicly available micro-data. Statistics is a language; like all languages, it is best learned through continuous usage.

Objectives:

1. To introduce you to the theory of inferential statistical analysis.
2. To introduce you to the basic methods of inferential statistical analysis, and develop your facility with these methods.
3. To teach you how to use SPSS to conduct inferential statistical analysis both skillfully and intelligently.
4. To illustrate and critique uses of social statistics.
5. To enable you to conduct an independent quantitative sociological research project using publicly available micro-data.

Text:

Multiple Regression: A Primer by Paul Allison. Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press. (Note: abbreviated in course calendar as A).

Statistics: A Tool for Social Research (First Canadian Edition) by Joseph F. Healy and Steven G. Prus. Includes CD-ROM with SPSS / PASW Statistics Student Version 18.0 (Note: abbreviated in course calendar as H/P).

** Available for purchase at the U of C bookstore.

Requirements:

A. Exams:

You will have two mid terms and one final examination. The midterms will each be worth 15% of your final grade, and the final will be worth 34% of your final grade. The mid-terms will be held in class on Thursday 9 February and Thursday 15 March. The final will take place during the final examination period, 16-25 April, and will be scheduled by the Registrar. Exams are mandatory. If you fail to take any of the exams without documentation, you will automatically fail the course.

NOTE: The only acceptable reasons for missing an examination in this class, as listed in the Deferral of Final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>), are illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you miss a mid-term examination, and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, the weight of the midterm exam will be added to your final examination. There are NO MAKE UP exams in this class. If you miss the final examination, you must contact the Registrar's Office immediately.

B. Problem Sets:

Problem sets are provided at the end of each chapter in the textbook, and the answers to the odd-numbered exercises are provided at the end of the textbook. You are encouraged to do as many of the odd-numbered exercises as you can for each chapter, and to check

your answers carefully. It is suggested that you complete the exercises *by hand, and in pencil*, and that you show all your calculations. You are encouraged to work in groups on these problem sets. It is your responsibility to make sure that you understand and can do all the problem sets. If you have any questions on the exercises, you are encouraged to bring them up during class or in office hours. I am happy to work through any of the exercises with you, either in a group or individually. The problem sets form the basis of the examinations. Remember that on the exams, you will also be required to show many of your mathematical calculations by hand.

C. Lab assignments:

There are three mandatory lab assignments throughout the semester. Each of these assignments will be worth 12% of your grade, for a total of 36%. The lab assignments will be handed out *in the lab sessions*. It is your responsibility to get the lab assignments. The lab assignments are due at the beginning of LAB on 31 January, 6 March, and 3 April.

We will not accept e-mail submissions of lab assignments. Only hard copies of lab assignments will be accepted. Lab assignments must be typed and stapled.

The lab assignments will all relate to the micro-data you choose to analyze in the second week of class. They will be cumulative, as you will develop your project through the three labs.

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.

NOTE: Late lab assignments will receive a grade reduction of 15% for each day past the deadline. The 15% grade reduction per day also applies to weekend days and holidays.

Grades:

Your final grade will be computed as follow:

- Mid Term One	15%
- Mid Term Two	15%
- Lab Assignments	36%
- Final Examination	34%

I will use the following scale to convert percentage grades to letter grades for this class.

A+ = 95-100	A = 90-94	A- = 85-89
B+ = 80-84	B = 75-79	B- = 70-74
C+ = 65-69	C = 60-64	C- = 55-59
D+ = 50-54	D = 45-49	
F = below 45		

The following description of letter grades comes from the University of Calgary Calendar.

An A indicates superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

A B indicates clearly above average performance, with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.

A C indicates satisfactory performance, with a basic understanding of the subject matter.

A D indicates marginal performance and generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.

An F indicates unsatisfactory performance, or failure to meet course requirements.

Policies:

- A. You are responsible for all the material covered in the textbook, in supplemental readings, during lectures, and during lab sessions.
- B. In the event that you have to miss class, you are responsible for getting the lecture notes from another student in the class.
- C. I will not distribute my personal notes to students under any circumstances.
- D. You may work with other students in the class on the labs and homework assignments. However, all submitted work must be YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL WORK. It is your responsibility to make sure you understand the definition of plagiarism, and that you avoid submitting any work which could be considered plagiarized. Students are advised to consult the 2011-2012 University of Calgary Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct. In particular, please note the following statement on penalties for academic misconduct: (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>)
- E. Cell phones, pagers, blackberries, surfing the internet, checking email, and listening to music are disruptive to other students. **No electronic devices** are allowed during class or during lab sessions, with the exception of using a computer to take notes,

- conduct statistical analysis, or complete lab assignments. If you are caught using electronic devices for any other reason during class or lab, you will be asked to leave the classroom.
- F. There are no re-writes on any assignments or examinations in this class, and no extra credit work will be given.
 - G. If you expect to have trouble meeting *any* of the class deadlines, please make sure to discuss your concerns with me *before* the deadline.
 - H. If you wish to discuss any grades in the class (on examinations, homework assignments, or labs) you must meet with either myself or one of the Teaching Assistants IN PERSON, either during office hours or during an appointment time. We will not discuss grades over email.
 - I. The U of C Statement on Principles of Conduct, reproduced in the University of Calgary Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>), applies to all work in this class. Please familiarize yourself with this statement.

Additional Information:

A. FOIP:

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 instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's 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.

B. 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 the student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

C. Plagiarism:

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination are regarded as serious academic offenses. Students are advised to consult the 2011-2012 University of Calgary Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

D. Safewalk:

The University of Calgary provides a safewalk 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.

E. Sociology Web Page:

<http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

F. USRI: At the completion of this course each student will be asked to complete an online Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) form.

G. Research Ethics:

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.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and 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 be available for pick-up only during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only 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).

Week	Date	Reading	Topic	NOTES
One				
T	10 Jan	H/P 1-6	Introduction, and start review of 311 material	
T lab	10 Jan	Week 1 Lab	NO LAB	
Th	12 Jan	H/P 1-6	Review 311 material	
Two				
T	17 Jan	H/P 7	Estimation	
T lab	17 Jan	Week 2 Lab	Peter Peller, from Spatial and Numeric Data, TFDL	
Th	19 Jan	H/P 7	Estimation	
Three				
T	24 Jan	H/P 8	Hypothesis Testing – one sample	
T lab	24 Jan	Week 3 Lab	Review: Descriptive statistics in SPSS	Hand out Lab A (Descriptives)
Th	26 Jan	H/P 8	Hypothesis Testing – one sample	
Four				
T	31 Jan	H/P 9	Hypothesis Testing – two samples	
T lab	31 Jan	Week 4 Lab	Chpts. 7, 8, 9	LAB A DUE
Th	2 Feb	H/P 9	Hypothesis Testing – two samples	
Five				
T	7 Feb	Review	Review	
T lab	7 Feb	Week 5 Lab	NO LAB	
Th	9 Feb	First Midterm	(Covers Chapters 1-9)	

Six				
T	14 Feb	H/P 10	ANOVA	
T lab	14 Feb	Week 6 Lab	Chpt. 10	
Th	16 Feb	H/P 10	ANOVA	
Seven				
T	28 Feb	H/P 11	Chi Square	
T lab	28 Feb	Week 7 Lab	Chpt. 11	Hand out Lab B (Bivariate Associations)
Th	1 March	H/P 11	Chi Square	
Eight				
T	6 March	H/P 15; A 5	Bivariate regression	
T lab	6 March	Week 8 Lab	Chpt. 15	LAB B DUE
Th	8 March	H/P 15; A 5	Bivariate regression	
Nine				
T	13 March	Review		
T lab	13 March	Week 9 Lab	NO LAB	
Th	15 March	Second Midterm (Covers Chapters 1- 14)		
Ten				
T	20 March	H/P 17; A 1	Multiple regression	
T lab	20 March	Week 10 Lab	Chpt. 17	
Th	22 March	H/P 17; A 2	Multiple regression	

Eleven				
T	27 March	A 3 + 6	Assumptions of regression	
T lab	27 March	Week 11 Lab	Review regression	Hand out Lab C (Multivariate Analysis)
Th	29 March	A 3 + 6	Assumptions of regression	
Twelve				
T	3 April	A 7 + 8	Multicollinearity, Nonlinearity	
T lab	3 April	Week 12 Lab	Collect assignment	LAB C DUE
Th	5 April	A 9	Other statistical techniques	
Thirteen				
T	10 April	Review		
T lab	10 April	Week 13 Lab	NO LAB	
Th	12 April	Review		

Final Examination (CUMULATIVE – covers the entire course): Registrar Scheduled between 16-25 April, 2012
