

Social Statistics

SOC 3112-090 (online)

Summer 2019

4 credit hours

Instructor: Megan Tippetts

Communication method: Canvas email

Office: BEH-S 321

Tutoring Hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant: Scott Wood

Communication method: Canvas email

Tutoring Hours: By appointment

Location: BEH-S 115

Course Overview

Course Summary

This course meets the General Education Quantitative Reasoning B (QB) requirement and the Bachelor of Science degree Quantitative Intensive (QI) requirement at the University of Utah. The goal of this course is to equip students with basic calculation and interpretation skills used in statistical analyses and quantitative social science research. The course begins with a discussion of descriptive statistics, including frequency distributions, graphs, and measures of central tendency and variability. Next, the course offers an introduction to inferential statistics, including t-tests, ANOVA, and chi-square. Finally, the course examines relationships between variables and measures of association, including bivariate regression and correlations. Ultimately, this course will prepare students for an increasingly information-based society by improving or gaining the ability to use data and critically evaluate data. Students will also improve or gain the ability to assess the strengths and limitations of quantitative research and uses in daily life.

Course Objectives

Throughout the semester, this course will address the following Learning Outcomes: Critical Thinking, Quantitative Literacy, and Foundations & Skills for Lifelong Learning. Homework assignments and class work will assess each student's ability to define, calculate, and interpret statistical concepts. At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- Critically read and interpret the news and other sources of information
- Explain statistical ideas in the social sciences
- Summarize, compute, and graphically present statistics
- Interpret and compute inferential statistics based on samples
- Apply probability theory to test hypotheses
- Differentiate between various statistical techniques
- Identify appropriate statistical techniques for particular variables and research questions
- Explain basic concepts and interpretations of regression analyses

General Approach to the Course

All materials will be handled via Canvas; all work is submitted via Canvas Quizzes. Homework is open during the week of the given topic. Labs complement lectures and offer experience with statistical software. In addition to chapter readings, PowerPoint lectures, and lectures found

through the modules tab, the homework may also be helpful as study material for exams. The use of Canvas Discussions are highly encouraged, as the course material may be overwhelming at times.

Course Materials

Required Text: Online Statistics Education: An Interactive Multimedia Course of Study, David Lane. Can be accessed here: <http://onlinestatbook.com/>

- Lectures found through the weekly modules are also required.
- PowerPoint lectures found in the Files tab on our Canvas page.
- Basic calculator (with the square root function)

Course and University Policies

- **Late work is not accepted. With a legitimate reason, I will make exceptions on a case by case basis. Arrangements MUST be made with the instructor prior to the due date.**
- *Academic Misconduct Statement:* Per University of Utah regulations (Policy # 6-400). “A student who engages in academic misconduct,” as defined in Part I.B. and including, but not limited to, cheating, falsification, or plagiarism, “may be subject to academic sanctions including but not limited to a grade reduction, failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from the program or the University, or revocation of the student’s degree or certificate. Sanctions may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.” More information can be found at <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>.
- *Addressing Sexual Misconduct.* Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).
- *The Student Code:* Students and faculty at the University of Utah are obligated to behave in accordance with the ordinances of the University. The Student Code (or Students’ Rights and Responsibilities) is located on the Web at: <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>. You are encouraged to review this document. All of the rights and responsibilities applicable to both the student and the faculty member will be observed during the semester.
- *Drop/Withdrawal.* Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A “W” grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade “W” is not used in calculating the student’s GPA. See the [Academic Calendar](#) for the last day to withdraw from term, first and second session classes.
Deadlines for courses with irregular start and end dates policy.
<https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/miscellaneous.php>
- *Plagiarism/Cheating.* It is assumed that all work submitted to your instructor is your own work. When you have used ideas of others, you must properly indicate that you have done

so. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code, “includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.” For detailed definitions and possible sanctions please see the Student Code below.
<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>

Student Support Resources

Wellness Statement. Your personal health and wellness are essential to your success as a student. Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive in this course and at the University of Utah. Please speak with the instructor or TA before issues become problems. And, for helpful resources, contact the Center for Student wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

Veterans Support Center. The Veterans Support Center is a “one stop shop” for student veterans to find services, support, advocacy, and camaraderie. They are located in the Park Building Room 201. You can visit their website for more information about their services and support at <http://veteranscenter.utah.edu>.

LGBT Resource Center. The University of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on campus. They are located in Room 409 of the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. You can visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: <http://lgbt.utah.edu>.

Learners of English as an Additional/Second Language. If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development. These resources include: the Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.utah.edu>); the Writing Program (<http://writing-program.utah.edu>); the English Language Institute (<http://continue.utah.edu/eli>).

The Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Accommodation Policy (see Section Q): <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>

Please let us know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

Assessments

Homework (15%): There will be six homework assignments due on Canvas by 11:59pm on the date they are due, **always a Tuesday**. Each assignment is worth 10 points. Homework questions are adapted from the assigned chapter. Answers will be available the day after the homework assignments are due, thus late work will not be accepted. Further instructions for each assignment

can be found in the description of the assignment through the **weekly Modules and/or the Files tab**.

In addition to the six homework assignments, you will have **ONE** quiz on the syllabus, an online readiness questionnaire: **Is Online Right for You?**, and a **self-evaluation assignment**. Further instructions on these assignments can be found through **the Assignments tab**.

Labs (25%): To complete labs (9 total), you will need data (provided), access to SPSS (provided) and to download the Citrix receiver.

- **Lab instructions and questions** can be found on our Canvas portal under the **Modules tab**.
- **Lab data** can be found in the **Files tab** in a folder called *Data*.
- **Lab video tutorials** can be found through the weekly modules.
- **SPSS** is accessed remotely via the Citrix receiver, an app that is installed onto your device.
- **Instructions for Citrix setup** can be found [here](#).

Lab questions must be submitted through the **assignments tab** by 11:59pm on the date they are due, **always a Tuesday**. Contact the College of Social and Behavioral Science Computing [Helpdesk](#) during the first week of class if you encounter difficulties with the Citrix setup process or the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) that we will use for labs. Citrix essentially allows access to the CSBS virtual lab.

Exams (60%): Each exam is worth 20% of the grade. The first exam is due **June 11th**, the second on **July 9th**, and the third exam is due on **August 2nd**. Each exam must be submitted via the Quizzes tab by 11:59pm on the date they are due. The exams are online and timed (2.5 hours each) but will be available for one week. Once you begin the exam, you must complete the exam in one session. In addition to readings from the required textbook and the lectures, use the homework assignments as study material for exams.

Extra Credit: Details will be announced when the extra credit becomes available.

Grading Scale

94-100%: A	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	67-69%: D+	<60%: F
90-93%: A-	83-86%: B	73-76%: C	63-66%: D	
	80-82%: B-	70-72%: C-	60-62%: D-	

Grades will not be curved.

See course schedule on next page

Schedule

Note: The syllabus is subject to change. Proper notice will be made on Canvas if any necessary changes occur. Students are responsible for staying updated on Canvas announcements or emails.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings	Lab/Exam	Homework
Section 1: Descriptive Statistics				
05/13 - 05/21	Module 0: Welcome/Orientation Module 1: The Basics	Ch. 1	Lab 1	Quiz 1 Is Online Right for You?
05/22 - 05/28	Module 2: Frequency Distribution	Ch. 2	Lab 2	
05/29 - 06/05	Module 3: Measures of Central Tendency and Measures of Variability	Ch. 3	Lab 3	Assignment 1 & 2
06/06- 06/11	Exam 1			
Section 2: Inferential Statistics				
06/12 - 06/18	Module 4: Normal Distribution Sampling and Sampling Distribution	Ch. 7 Ch. 9	Lab 4	
06/19 - 06/25	Module 5: Estimation	Ch. 10	Lab 5	
06/26 - 7/02	Module 6: Testing Hypotheses	Ch. 11 Ch. 12	Lab 6	Assignment 3 & 4
07/03 - 07/09	Exam 2			
Section 3: Relationships Between Variables				
07/10 - 07/16	Module 7: Bivariate Tables/Cross-tabulation Module 7: Chi-square Test	Ch. 4 Ch. 17	Lab 7	
07/17 - 07/23	Module 8: Bivariate Correlation & Regression	Ch. 14	Lab 8	
07/24 - 07/30	Module 9: Measures of Association for Nominal and Ordinal Variables Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)	Ch. 15	Lab 9	Assignment 5 & 6
07/31 - 08/02	Exam 3			Self-Evaluation

As the only institution in the state classified in the highest research category (R1), at the University of Utah you will have access to state-of-the-art research facilities and be able to be part of the knowledge creation process. You will have the opportunity to do research of your own with faculty who are leading experts in their field, engaging in programs that match your research interests. Further, you will interact with and often take classes with graduate students that provide an advanced understanding of the knowledge in your field.

CSBS Emergency Action Plan



BUILDING EVACUATION

EAP (Emergency Assembly Point) – When you receive a notification to evacuate the building either by campus text alert system or by building fire alarm, please follow your instructor in an orderly fashion to the EAP marked on the map below. Once everyone is at the EAP, you will receive further instructions from Emergency Management personnel. You can also look up the EAP for any building you may be in on campus at

<http://emergencymanagement.utah.edu/eap>



CAMPUS RESOURCES

U Heads Up App: There's an app for that. Download the app on your smartphone at <http://alert.utah.edu/headsup> to access the following resources:

- **Emergency Response Guide:** Provides instructions on how to handle any type of emergency, such as earthquake, utility failure, fire, active shooter, etc. Flip charts with this information are also available around campus.
- **See Something, Say Something:** Report unsafe or hazardous conditions on campus if you see a life threatening or emergency situation, please call 911!
- **Safety Escorts:** For students who are on campus at night or passed business hours and would like an escort to your care, please call 801-585-2677. You can call 24/7 and a security officer will be sent to walk with you or give you a ride to your desired on-campus location.