



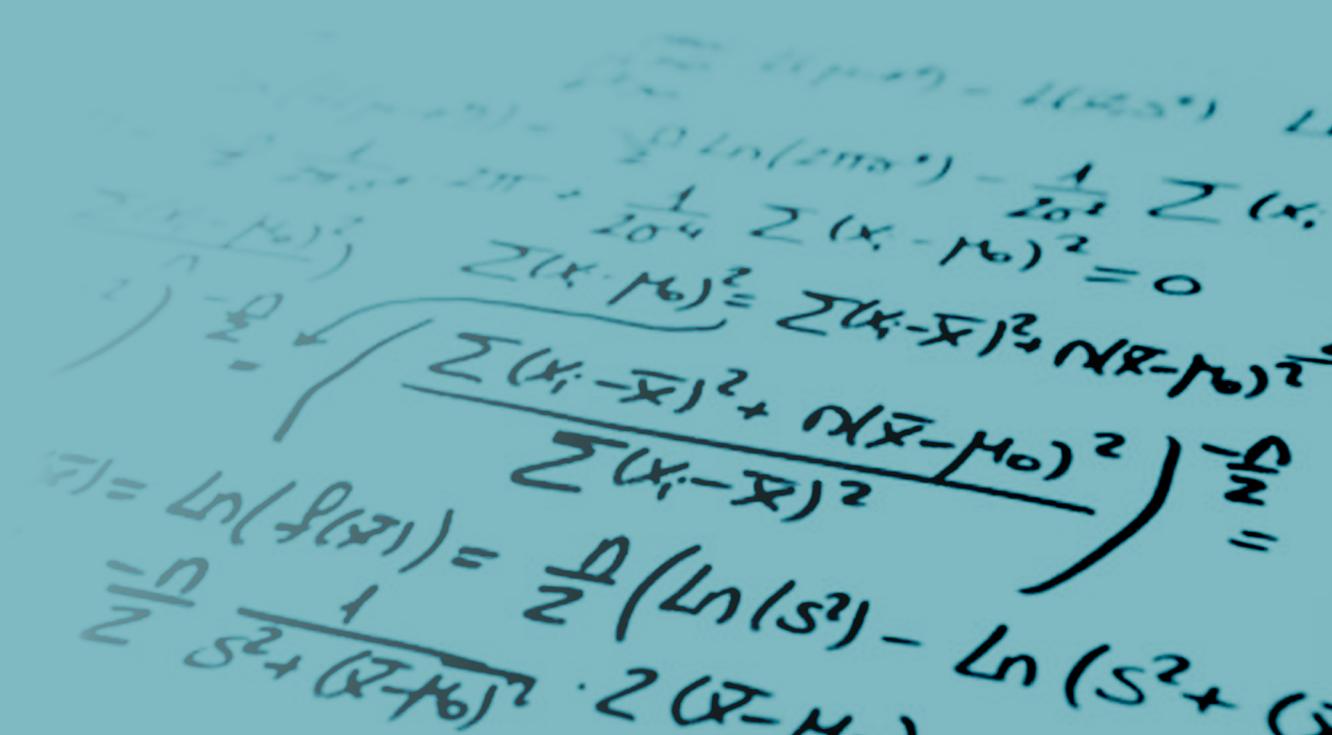
SOC 3112-001 | Fall XXXX

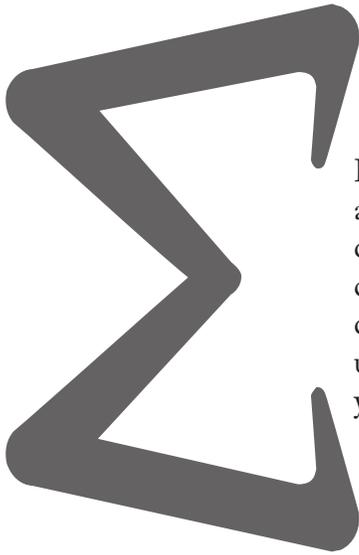
Introduction to Social Statistics

Location: ONLINE

Instructor: Yvette Young

★ This course fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning (QB) and Quantitative Intensive (QI) requirement of the U of U.

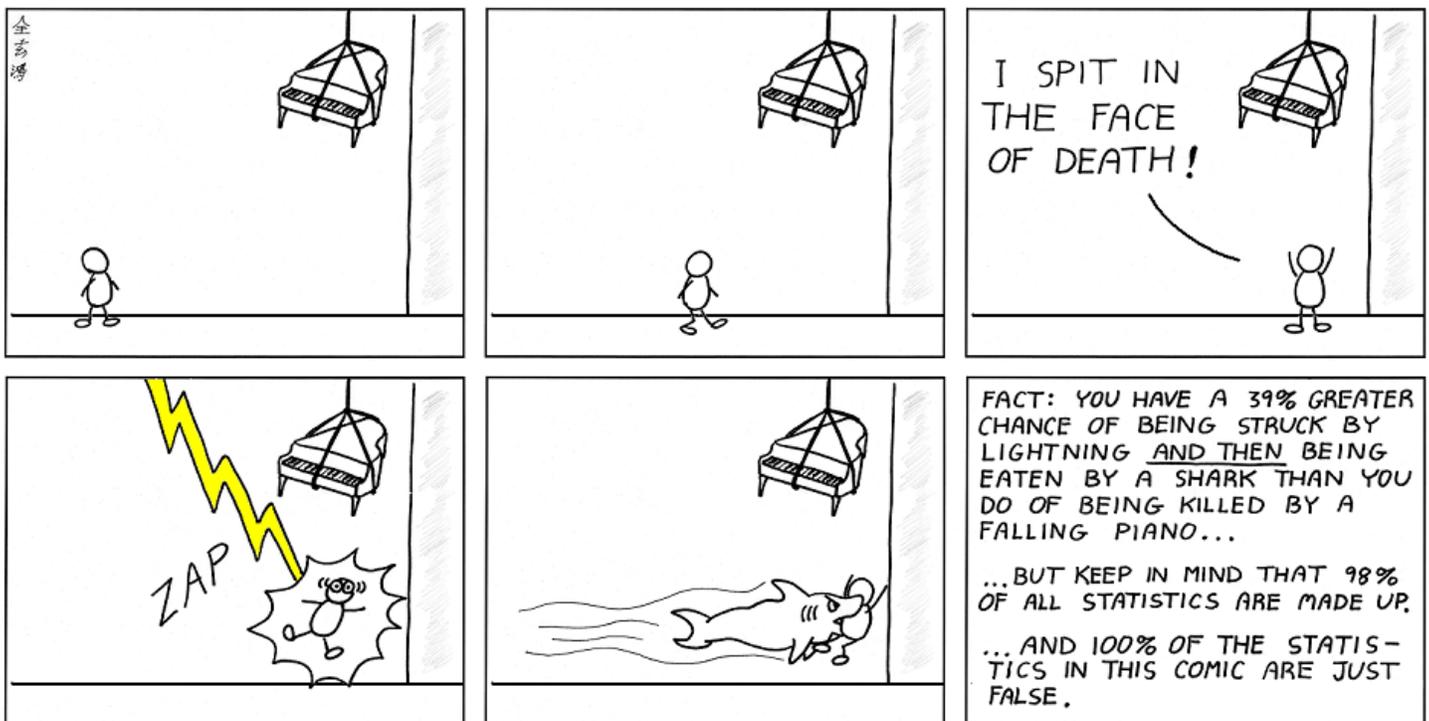




How is it that pollsters are able to predict how the entire country is going to vote in a presidential election after talking to only 1000 people? How can social scientists draw conclusions about a large population after studying only a small sample? This course explores the answers to those questions and more as we take a look at both descriptive and inferential statistics within the context of the social sciences. The ultimate goal of this class is to improve your critical thinking skills and make all of you more discerning consumers of information.

Introduction to Social Statistics

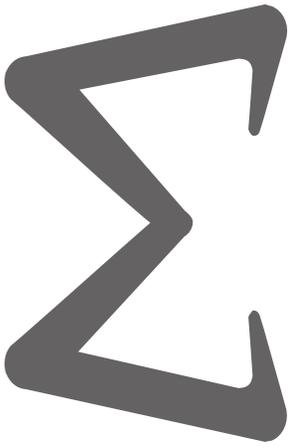
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Instructor: Yvette Young, M.S.
Email: Please use Canvas email

Office: BEHS 414
Office Hours: By appointment

*This syllabus is based on the syllabi of Tom Quinn, Yiqing Yang and Vincent Fu who taught or are teaching the same course.



COURSE SUMMARY

This four-credit course fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning (QB) and Quantitative Intensive (QI) requirement of the University of Utah. It is designed for students to gain a basic understanding of common statistics widely applied in the analysis of social science data. Statistics is a set of tools and techniques researchers use to organize, summarize, and communicate information in the attempt to describe and draw conclusions about human conditions as well as the world around us.

Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics are main components of this course. Descriptive statistics will allow you to summarize and describe data. Inferential statistics will allow you to make estimates about a population (i.e. all the students in the U) based on a sample (i.e. 200 or 500 students in the U). The course also covers hypothesis testing and the basics of regression analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student will become an educated consumer of statistical information, capable of applying what is learned in this course to deal with statistical information presented in daily life and in their academic field, as well as of analyzing and discerning the uses and abuses of statistics.

REQUIRED TEXT

Linneman, Thomas J. 2014. *Social Statistics: Managing Data, Conducting Analyses, Presenting Results*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 9780415661478

Optional Text

Salkind, Neil. 2013. *Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics*. Fifth edition. Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781452277714

You can use your personal computer to do the calculations, or you will need a scientific calculator (with square-root function) in your daily study.

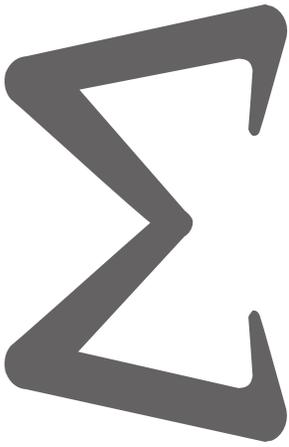
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Class attendance is an essential component of success in this course. Because we'll be going over so much material in such a short amount of time, missing even one class could be detrimental to your grade. I do not, under any circumstances, accept late work.

Your final grade will be based on the following:

- Exams (2) 30%
- Homework 15%
- Short Quizzes 15%
- Lab Exercises 20%
- Final Project 20%

Grading Scale	
A	94-100
A-	90-93.9
B+	87-89.9
B	84-86.9
B-	80-83.9
C+	77-79.9
C	74-76.9
C-	70-73.9
D+	67-69.9
D	64-66.9
D-	60-63.9
E	0-59.9



COMPUTER SKILLS REQUIRED

Ability to use a web browser to surf the Canvas pages and upload files is required. Familiarity with YouTube Most of the required course materials are posted online. **It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and related equipment in order to participate in the online portion of the course.**

If you experience computer issues, you are required to notify the instructor before any assignments are late. Please familiarize yourself with campus technical support resources and computer labs in the event of any computer issues.

Announcements:

Your instructor will post periodic reminders for upcoming assignments, new information, assignment and assessment deadlines, and other pertinent course related information. Announcements can be accessed on the class website.

In order to receive these weekly announcements in a timely manner, please set-up your Profile on Canvas to forward announcements to your email, SmartPhone, iPad, or other mobile device. If the information has been posted as an announcement or sent as a class email it is your responsibility to adhere to any deadlines or requirements contained therein.

ASSIGNMENTS

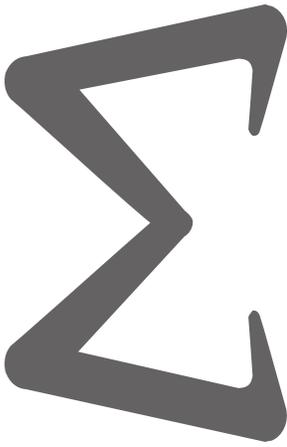
Assignments and course requirements for each section or topic are listed in the reading schedule and on Canvas. The deadlines listed on Canvas are firm. Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor. *Points will be deducted from any late assignments that are accepted.* Any assignment that is more than one week late will **not** be accepted.

Late Assignment Submissions:

All assignments are due on the date listed in Canvas. Any assignment received even one minute after the deadline or later will be considered late.

- The Canvas clock is the final word on the time “stamp” on all assignments, assessments, discussions, and other submissions.
- All late submissions will be penalized 10% per day or portion of day late.
- No assignment will be accepted that is over 7 days late.

The only exceptions to this policy are those due to officially sanctioned University activities, and illness with medical documentation. If you believe you qualify for an exception **you must inform the instructor in a timely manner.** Please plan ahead in order to submit assignments early or no later than the deadline to avoid the loss of points due to late submissions or missed opportunities.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Exams (30% of Final Grade):

There are two exams in this class. Each is worth 15% of your final grade. They will be a combination of multiple choice, matching, short answer and problems requiring statistical calculations. You may use a calculator and one sheet of notes for each exam. *Exams are not cumulative, but the material in each chapter builds on information learned in previous chapters.*

Homework (15% of Final Grade):

All homework assignments consist of problems at the end of each chapter of the required text. Specific problems will be listed on canvas. Homework should be completed before class on the date due.

Short Quizzes (15% of Final Grade):

There will be weekly open-book quizzes covering the previous week's material. Quizzes are hosted on Canvas and will be timed. Each quiz will be graded on a 10-point scale.

Lab Exercises (20% of Final Grade):

A portion of each week will be devoted to learning statistical software (SPSS). Weekly exercises will be completed using SPSS and submitted on Canvas. Access to SPSS is provided in CSBS computer labs and via a web-based VPN.

Computer Labs: Sandy Campus, BEH S 101 and OSH 277

VPN Access: <http://apps.csbs.utah.edu/>

Final Project (20% of Final Grade):

Each student will complete a small statistical research project using a real data set on a topic that interests them. Students will present their project on the last day of class.

FAQs RELATING TO THE COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

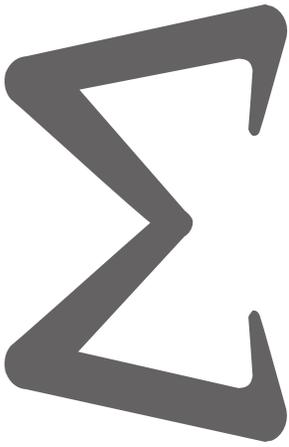
- **It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and related equipment in order to participate in the online portion of the course.**
- Equipment failures will not be an acceptable excuse for late or absent assignments. If you have technical difficulties you can obtain assistance from the CSBS Computing Help Desk:

Help Desk:

(801) 585-5959, M-F, 8am – 5pm

tacchelpdesk@utah.edu

- You are responsible for making sure your assignments, including attachments, are received before the deadline **and in a readable format**. Please ensure you have attached the correct file before closing the Canvas Assignment page.
- You are responsible for submitting the assignment in the required format, with the required naming convention, correct file extension, and using the software type and version required for the assignment.
- The instructor may elect to use an online plagiarism detection service in this course. Plagiarized work of any kind will receive a failing grade for the assignment and may result in formal disciplinary action.



ACADEMIC HONESTY

Following the Student Code means zero-tolerance for academic misconduct in this 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.” All instances of academic misconduct will be referred to the Department Chair or the Dean of the College. For detailed definitions and possible academic sanctions please see: <http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

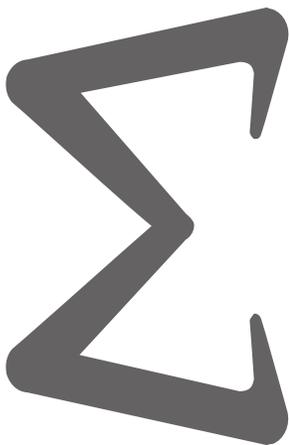
“All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, and I will do so, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.”

- “Faculty...must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning.” PPM 8-12.3, B.
- “Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning.” PPM 8-10, II. A.

Students who are distractive to the instructor and/or other students may be asked to leave the classroom. This includes students enrolled in an online course who should follow basic netiquette and professional behavior via the online course delivery. “Netiquette” stands for “Internet Etiquette”, and refers to the set of practices developed over the years to make the online course experience pleasant for everyone. Like other forms of etiquette, netiquette is primarily concerned with matters of courtesy in communications.

- Discussion threads, e-mails, and chat rooms are all considered to be equivalent to classrooms, and student behavior within those environments shall conform to the Student Code. Specifically:
- Be open-minded and supportive to all viewpoints, even with you do not agree.
- Speak with respect to each other and the instructor.
- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in an online posting.
- Profanity or off-color language and photos are never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is called “flaming;” it is not acceptable and will be dealt with according to the Student Code.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points !!!! and question marks ?????.
- Course e-mails, e-journals, and other online course communications are part of the classroom and as such, are University property and subject to GRAMA regulations and the Student Code. Privacy regarding these communications between correspondents must not be assumed and should be mutually agreed upon in advance, in writing.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. It is the student’s responsibility to check Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted in advance through course announcement or Canvas email.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

(LIN indicates the Linneman text, SAL indicates the Salkind text, and FNLG indicates the Frankfort-Nachmias text.)

Date		Topics	Reading
Week 1: 8/28	Part One:	Introduction and Descriptive Statistics Introduction and Key Terminology	FNLG: Chapter 1
Week 2:		Finding and Managing Data, Frequency Tables and Graphing Data	LIN: Chapter 1 & 2
Week 3:		Measures of Central Tendency	LIN: Chapter 3
Week 4:		Measures of Variability	LIN: Chapter 3
Week 5:		Exam 1	
Week 6:	Part Two:	Probability and Significance Standard Normal Distribution and Z-Scores	FNLG: Chapter 6
Week 7:		Probability Distributions and Estimation	FNLG: Chapter 7
Week 8:	Part Three:	Inferential Statistics Hypothesis Testing and Chi-Square	SAL: Chapter 7 & 9 LIN: Chapter 4
Week 9:		Relationships Between Variables: Correlation	LIN: Chapter 7
Week 10:		Exam 2	
Week 11:		T-Tests and ANOVA	LIN: Chapter 6
Week 12:		Ordinary Least Squares Regression	LIN: Chapter 7
Week 13:		Inference From Regression	LIN: Chapter 8
Week 14:		Dichotomous Independent Variables and Multiple Regression	LIN: Chapter 9 & 10
Week 15:		Final Projects Due	

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

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 the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and me to make arrangements for accommodations. Some of the readings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that conflicts with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience.