

SOCI 3443 Social Statistics

Sections 3 and 4 (lab)

4 Credit Hours

Fall 2017

Basic Information

Class Meeting Times: Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:20pm in CHSS 226

Instructor: J. Bart Stykes, Ph.D.

Email: jstykes@shsu.edu

Office: CHSS Sociology Department 270B1

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10 am -12 pm and 3:30-4:30 pm or by appt.

Campus Phone: (936) 294-4122

Teaching Assistant: Christina Ramos

Office: CHSS Sociology Department 270F

Office Hours: Tuesday 10am-12pm

Email: cxr059@shsu.edu

Required Readings: Agresti, Alan and Christine Franklin. 2012. *Statistics: The Art and Science of Learning from Data*, 3rd Edition, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc.

SPSS: Students must have access to the statistical programs SPSS for this course. *Computer labs on campus already have SPSS installed on them.* Students may also purchase a 6-month SPSS student license through the university by going to shsu.onthehub.com and selecting Students ->IBM SPSS Statistics 23 Grad Pack -> Indicate operating system (Mac or Windows) -> IBM SPSS Statistics Base GradPack 23. **Note that you should check the platform and computer requirements for the program prior to download.**

A calculator is also required for this course. There are many calculators on the market that will suffice for material in the course. However, I suggest that students use a TI-83 as I am most familiar with this model and its functions. Though other calculator brands and models may work well for students, I cannot guarantee their functionality related to course material. *Cell phones may not be used as calculators in this course and will not be allowed for examinations.*

Course Description: This course covers three broad types of statistical analyses: descriptive statistics, measures of association, and statistical inference. Through a combination of assigned readings, lecture, homework, and lab exercises, students will learn about the logic and assumptions behind statistical techniques as well as how to interpret results from analyses. In addition to regular classroom experiences, students will learn how to use Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) to analyze data "hands on" in designated lab days detailed in the course schedule.

Course Goals: Broadly speaking, I hope this course provides you a solid understanding of how statistical analyses are used to inform the social sciences. By taking an applied approach to teaching statistics, I hope you leave this class with a firm understanding of the assumptions underlying various statistical techniques and how to interpret results from a variety of analyses.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course students will:

1. Gain *factual knowledge* pertaining to Social Statistics,
2. Develop a unique skillset that will make you a marketable applicant for entry-level data analyst positions or graduate school in the Social Sciences, and
3. Learning *appropriate methods* for analyzing and interpreting *numerical information*.

Posting Lecture Slides: Given the nature of the course and content, I will not make regular use of PowerPoint. However, I will post and provide handouts with pertinent information for all lab exercises at designated “lab” days.

Attendance: Regular class attendance is necessary for success in this course. I will circulate an attendance sheet at every class, and students who arrive late will be treated as absent for that day. Additionally, **late homework will not be accepted, and student who miss “lab days” are not guaranteed access to the handouts that I provide for each of the three exercises.** I reserve the right to make exceptions to my attendance policy under extenuating circumstances (i.e., death in the family, prolonged illness, etc.) on a case-by-case basis.

Grading Criteria: Your performance in this class is evaluated on three distinct components: 1) adequate understanding of course content, 2) application of course content, and 3) active class participation. Your proficiency is assessed using a combination of graded homework, completion of lab exercises and other forms of class participation, and examinations.

1. Examinations comprise **65%** of your final grade.
 - Exam 1 covers Introductory Content in Chapters 1-3 (15%)
 - Exam 2 covers Probability and Sampling in Chapters 5-7 (15%)
 - Exam 3 covers Inferential Statistics in Chapters 8-10 (15%)
 - Exam 4 is *cumulative* but primarily focuses on Chapters 11-12 (20%)

Students will be allowed to create a cheat sheet (using both sides of a standard 8.5 x 11 sheet of notebook paper) with key information that can be used during the exam. Since the final exam is cumulative, students can use two note cards for the final exam.

2. 10 Homework exercises comprise **15%** of your final grade. Such that each homework assignment comprises 1.5% of your final grade and the required end-of-chapter questions will be posted on Blackboard as the semester progresses.
3. Lab exercises comprise **15%** of your final grade. 3 lab exercise will be administered over the course of the semester (via the Blackboard page for SOCI 3443 Section 4) and each exercise is worth 5% of your final grade. Please consult the syllabus for due dates on lab exercises.
4. Class participation comprises **5%** of your final grade. 1% is based on participation in the survey administered the first day of class. The remaining 4% is based on class attendance:
 - 0-2 absences correspond to 4%
 - 3-4 absences correspond to 3%
 - 5-6 absences correspond to 2%
 - 7-9 absences correspond to 1%
 - 10 or more absences correspond to 0%

A:	90-100
B:	80-89
C:	70-79
D:	60-69
F:	59 or lower

Make-up Exams: If you have special circumstances and are curious if it will be treated as an excused absence, please stop by during my office hours or make an appointment to meet with me. I will evaluate these circumstances on a case-by-case basis and reserve the right to revise my policy should the circumstances warrant such a decision. Below I have attached the University’s policy on religious holidays.

Students must notify me by email at least 48 hours prior to an exam to schedule a make-up examination. Make-up exams will be different from the exam administered to the class. Should a student notify me 48 hours prior to the exam, I will meet with the student to schedule the make-up exam.

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive an F for that assignment with more severe sanctions as appropriate.

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/728eec25-f780-4dcf-932c-03d68cade002.pdf>

Americans with Disabilities Act: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities must register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center and then arrange a conference with the instructor in order that accommodations can be made to assure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/9edd8433-cad5-40d1-b4bf-6a91b08f90e4.pdf>. SSD Office Location: Lee Drain Annex (next to the Farrington Building); Ph. 936-294-3512; TDD: 936-294-3786; E-mail: disability@shsu.edu; Web Address: www.shsu.edu/disability

Religious Holidays: The Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. Religious Holy Day means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation. Students should contact the instructor as soon as possible regarding any missed classes or exams due to Religious Holy Days. <http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/0953c7d0-7c04-4b29-a3fc-3bf0738e87d8.pdf>

University Code of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students shall arrive to class on time and be respectful to their other students. If a student needs to arrive to class late or leave class early the student will make the professor aware of these needs prior to class time. All cell phones and beepers must be turned off and stowed away while in the classroom. If a cell phone is out during an exam, the student will receive an F for that exam. Students who disrupt the class will be contacted by the professor to adjust their behaviors. In extreme cases students who cannot comply with these requirements can be removed and resigned from the class.

<https://netreg.shsu.edu/mirror/codeofconduct.html>

Evaluation: Students will have the opportunity to evaluate the professor during the semester.

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students shall arrive to class on time and be respectful to their other students. If a student needs to arrive to class late or leave class early the student will make the professor aware of these

needs prior to class time. All cell phones and beepers must be turned off and stowed away while in the classroom. If a cell phone is out during an exam, the student will receive an F for that exam. Students who disrupt the class will be contacted by the professor to adjust their behaviors. In extreme cases students who cannot comply with these requirements can be removed and resigned from the class.

Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES

Week and Topic		Important Deadlines
Aug. 23 rd Aug. 28 th and 30 th	Week 1: Introductions and Ch. 2 Week 2: Wrap up Ch. 2 and Ch. 3 Read Chapter 2 by August 28 th and Ch. 3 by August 30 th	HW #1 Due August 30 th
Sept. 4 th and 6 th	Week 3: Wrap up Ch. 3 No Class on Labor Day (Sept. 4)	
Sept. 11 th and 13 th	Week 4: Lab/Review and Exam Lab 1 in CJC A111, Sept. 11 th	HW #2 Due September 11 th Lab 1 due by 11:59pm on 9-24
Exam #1 September 13th		
Sept. 18 th and 20 th	Week 5: Ch. 5 Read Chapter 5 by Sept. 18 th	
Sept. 25 th and 27 th	Week 6: Ch. 6 Read Chapter 6 by Sept. 25 th	HW #3 Due September 25 th
Oct. 2 nd and 4 th	Week 7: Ch. 7 Reach Chapter 7 by Oct. 2 nd	HW #4 Due October 2 nd
Oct. 9 th and 11 th	Week 8: Review and Exam	HW #5 Due October 9 th
Exam # 2 October 11th		
Oct. 16 th and 18 th	Week 9: Ch. 8 Read Chapter 8 by Oct. 16 th	
Oct. 23 rd and 25 th	Week 10: Ch. 9 Read Chapter 9 by Oct. 23 rd	HW #6 Due October 23 rd
Oct. 30 th and Nov. 1 st	Week 11: Ch. 10 Read Chapter 10 by Oct. 30 th	HW #7 Due October 30 th
Nov. 6 th and 8 th	Week 12: Lab/Review and Exam Lab 2 in CJC A111, Nov. 6 th	HW #8 Due November 6 th Lab 2 due by 11:59pm on 11-12
Exam #3 November 8th		
Nov. 13 th and 15 th	Week 13: Ch. 11 Read Chapter 11 by November 13 th	
Nov. 20 th and 22 nd	Week 14: Lab Day Lab 3 in CJC A111, Nov. 20 th No Class on Nov. 22nd (Enjoy Thanksgiving!)	Lab 3 due by 11:59pm on 11/26
Nov. 27 th and 29 th	Week 15: Ch. 12 and Review Reach Chapter 12 by November 27 th	HW #9 Due November 27 th
Final Exam December 4th 3:30-5:30pm		HW #10 Due Beginning of Final Exam

Please note this schedule is tentative and subject to change.