

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Statistics in Sociology
Sociology 2205B, 532
Winter, 2017

Instructor: Dr. Yvonne Asare-Bediako
Office Hours: Tuesdays 5:30pm to 6:30pm (or by appointment)
Office:
Email: ynyinak@uwo.ca (not through owl, please)
Class: Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Location: Room BR 204

Course Description

Mandatory for Sociology and honors specialization, this course introduces the student to basic statistical procedures and analytical software. It identifies the importance of statistics in understanding the social world and exposes students to the various and appropriate techniques required in studying and quantifying social phenomena. The course will begin with descriptive statistics which include a review of basic mathematical concepts and data summary. The rest of the course will be devoted to inferential statistics. A pocket calculator that has a square root function (and preferably a memory) is required for this course.

The Department of Sociology requires that all sociology majors be exposed to social theory, statistics, and research methodology. Sociology 2205 is the introductory course in statistics.

Prerequisite(s)

At least 60% average in 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level, or Social Work 1021A/B, 1022 A/B.

Antirequisite(s)

Biology 2244A/B, Economics 2122A/B, 2222A/B, Geography 2210A/B, Health Sciences 3801A/B, MOS 2242A/B, Psychology 2810, 2820E, 2830A/B, 2850A/B, 2851A/B, the former 2885, Social Work 2207A/B, the former 2205, Statistical Sciences 2035, 2141A/B, 2143A/B, 2244A/B, 2858A/B and the former 2122A/B (and Statistical Sciences 2037A/B if taken before Fall 2010).

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Distinguish between descriptive and inferential statistics
- Understand and apply basic statistical concepts to social phenomena
- Identify the most appropriate techniques and tools for studying specific social situations.
- Perform and interpret basic statistical analysis.
- Thoughtfully analyze and evaluate published research from a methodological perspective.

Required Text(s)

Healey, Joseph and Steven G. Prus. (2015). Statistics, A Tool for Social Research (3rd Canadian Ed.). Toronto: Nelson

You may use older versions of the text, but please be advised that topic coverage and text chapters may not match the course outline.

Method of Evaluation

Students will be evaluated based on assignments and exams.

Assignments

Students in this course will be given 2 major assignments. These assignments would focus on materials and areas that have been covered in class. Each assignment is worth 10% of the final grade. Assignment #1 is due on the **7th of February, 2017**. Assignment #2 is due on the **21st of March 2017**. A **HARD COPY** of each assignment must be submitted at the **BEGINNING OF CLASS** on the specified due date. Electronic submissions will be awarded a grade of 0, and late submissions will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day.

Students may come together to discuss assignments and to share ideas. However, students are **NOT** allowed to copy or plagiarize the work of fellow students. It is expected, that students will apply ideas shared and do their assignments, independently. Any evidence of plagiarism/copying will lead to a grade of zero (0).

Mid-Term Test:

There will be one (1) mid-term test. This is scheduled for **14th February, 2017**. The test will focus on materials covered in class and will include lectures and readings. The test, worth 35% of the final grade, will have two sections. The first section will be made up of multiple choice questions. This part will be done on scantron sheets. The second section will consist of calculations.

Final Examination:

The final examination, which makes up 45% of the final grade, will be held during the April Exam Period (DTBA). Students are expected to have mastered the topics, areas and materials covered prior to the exams. The exact format of the final exam will be relayed later in the term.

Examination Requirements:

Students are allowed to use a calculator on both the mid-term and final exams. Other electronic devices such as cell phones and laptops are not permitted.

Evaluation Breakdown

The Grading scheme for this course will be as follows: Total 100%

Mid-term Exam: =35%

Assignment 1: =10%

Assignment 2: =10%

Final Exam: = 45%

How to Contact Me

I will be available to respond to questions regarding the course, requirements and materials during office hours. You are also welcome to communicate with me through email. I request, however, that you refrain from emailing me with questions that have already been addressed online, by this course outline and in class. Only urgent enquiries will receive attention and a response within 48 hours of receipt. All non- urgent enquiries can be addressed in class or during office hours.

Attendance and Classroom Environment:

Students are encouraged to attend class regularly, pay attention and to participate in all in-class and out-of-class assignments.

Laptops and Mobile Phone Policy: Laptops will be permitted in class if they are only being used for notetaking. However, students are encouraged to print out copies of lectures posted on owl and take notes by hand as most of the notetaking will involve practice questions and writing out calculations. Students found using laptops for activities not related to this class will be told to put the laptop away and not be allowed to use the laptop for the rest of the class. All cell phones must be turned off at the beginning of class. Phone use and texting are not permitted during class.

Course Schedule and Reading

Date	Topic	Reading
January 10, 17, 24	<p>Syllabus and Course Overview Introduction and review of basic mathematical concepts.</p> <p>Descriptive Statistics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic Descriptive Statistics 2. Measures of Central Tendency 3. Measures of dispersion 	Healey, Preface, CH.1, 2, 3, 4
January 31	<p>Normal Distribution</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Z-Scores 2. The Normal Curve 	Chapter 5
February 7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPSS Practice & Review 	Chapters 1 -5
February 7	ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE	
February 14	MIDTERM EXAM	
February 20 - 24	READING WEEK	
February 28	<p>Inferential Statistics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Sampling Distribution 2. Estimation Procedures 	
March 7, 14	<p>Hypothesis Testing, I, II, III & IV</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One Sample Case 2. Two Sample Case 	Chapters 9,10,11,12
March 21, 28, April 4	<p>Measures of Association</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bivariate Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominal • Ordinal • Interval Ratio • Review 	Chapters 13, 14, 15
March 21	ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE	
April 9 - 30	FINAL EXAM PERIOD	

**NB. All dates are approximations and may have to be adjusted.
This timetable is a guideline and is subject to change!**

2016-17 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html> The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html>)

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>)

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.