

Brescia University College
Western University

2018

Sociology 2205A: Statistics for Sociology
Section 531

Dr. Jamie Seabrook
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Office Hours: By appointment

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Classes
Mondays 8:30 - 11:30 am
Room: BR 302

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces statistical techniques used to conduct research. Students will gain a broad understanding of both descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics include basic knowledge of mathematical concepts, measures of central tendency and dispersion, and construction of tables and graphs. Inferential statistics are used to assess the degree to which results from a sample can be generalized to a larger population. For inferential statistics, students will be introduced to hypothesis testing, correlation, measures of association, and common statistical tests. A pocket calculator that has a square root function (and preferably a memory) is required for this course.

COMPETENCIES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the Brescia Competencies of Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving, Self-Awareness and Development by:

1. Identifying independent and dependent variables (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving);
2. Distinguishing between descriptive and inferential statistics (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving);
3. Identifying the appropriate statistical test for analysing a set of variables (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving);
4. Determining whether statistical analyses were correctly or incorrectly performed in research (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving, Self-Awareness)

- and Development);
5. Entering and analysing data using SPSS Statistical software (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving, Self-Awareness and Development);
 6. Describing and interpreting the results of SPSS statistical output (Communication, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving);
 7. Formulating objectives and hypotheses (Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving).

APPROACHES:

1. Lectures and class discussions.
2. Experiential learning using IBM SPSS Statistics to gain a thorough understanding of data entry, data analysis, and interpretation of statistical output.

TEXTBOOK:

Wilson, J. H., & Joye, S. W. 2016. *Research Methods and Statistics: An Integrated Approach*. SAGE.

Course Requirements

- 1) Two computer assignments, each worth 10% of the final grade. A separate handout outlining what is required, deadlines, etc., will be provided.
- 2) In-class test, worth 20% of the final grade, to be written on Monday, October 15, 2018.
- 3) In-class test, worth 20% of the final grade, to be written on Monday, November 12, 2018.
- 4) Class participation is worth 10% of the final grade. Students will be evaluated on the quality of their contribution to class discussion as well as active engagement in class discussion.
- 5) Final exam, worth 30% of the final grade, to be written in the December exam period (scheduled by the Registrar).

Topics Covered

Readings

Section I: Foundations of Design and Analysis

The Scientific Method & Ethical Research

Wilson and Joye, ch. 1 & 2
(Sept. 10)

Research Designs and Variables

Wilson and Joye, ch.3
(Sept. 17)

Learning About a Population from a Sample

Wilson and Joye, ch.4
(Sept. 24)

Section II: Categorical Variables and Simple Frequency

One Variable with Frequency Data

Wilson and Joye, ch.5
(Oct. 1)

Two Variables with Frequency Data

Wilson and Joye, ch.6
(Oct. 22)

Section III: Research without Grouping

Examining Relationships

Wilson and Joye, ch.7
(Oct. 29)

Scale Development

Wilson and Joye, ch.8
(Nov. 5)

Prediction

Wilson and Joye, ch.9
(Nov. 19)

Section IV: Grouped Designs with Two Independent Groups

One Variable with Two Independent Groups

Wilson and Joye, ch.10

(Nov. 26)

One Variable with more than Two Independent Groups

Wilson and Joye, ch.11
(Dec. 3)

Course Antirequisites and Prerequisites

Antirequisite(s): Biology 2244A/B, Economics 2122A/B, Economics 2222A/B, Geography 2210A/B, Health Sciences 3801A/B,MOS 2242A/B, Psychology 2810, Psychology 2820E, Psychology 2830A/B, Psychology 2850A/B, Psychology 2851A/B, Social Work 2207A/B,Statistical Sciences 2035, Statistical Sciences 2141A/B, Statistical Sciences 2143A/B, Statistical Sciences 2244A/B, Statistical Sciences 2858A/B.

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level, or Thanatology 1025A/B.

2018-19 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.

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. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty

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.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. 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.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:
http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNs

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge 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 are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your 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, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar, see the Sessional Dates tab at

[\). 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.*](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/index.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=)

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 and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic 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/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20 .

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. 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 Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, 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.

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 (<http://www.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 is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, she may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal. For information on academic appeals you can consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the 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).

7. SUPPORT

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 <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html, for information about how to obtain help for yourself or others.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

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.