SOCI 3303, FALL 2019, CRN 80364
Statistics for Sociology

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This is a course on social statistics. What that means is that we will be spending this semester talking about statistics and the analysis of quantitative research data. I will try to make the course as enjoyable and informative as possible. This is my favorite course to teach, and I hope that my enthusiasm for the material rubs off on you.

Take the time to read this syllabus carefully and contact me right away if you have any questions or concerns. I will respond to emails within 24 hours Mondays through Thursdays, but I am slower on the weekends. If I do not respond to your message within 24 hours on a weekday (or 48 hours over the weekend) assume I did not get your email and resend it. An email sent to dbaunach@kennesaw.edu is the best and quickest way to reach me. Do not use D2L email.

You may also call my office phone at 470-578-4258 or visit at the KSU campus, Social Sciences building (22), Room 4058. You are always welcome to visit. You will need to email and make an appointment if you plan an in-person visit -- just so that the amount of time you think you will need will be reserved for you.

Course Description & Prerequisites

This course introduces a wide range of statistical concepts and techniques used in sociology. Students learn how to summarize data, generalize from a sample to a population, and determine the statistical relationship between two or more variables. The course emphasizes the application, interpretation, and critique of various statistical techniques, including means tests, cross tabulation, ANOVA, correlation, and regression. Students use computer software to analyze sociological data. (3 credit hours)

This course has one prerequisite: SOCI 1101 or CRJU 1101.

Course Goals & Objectives

Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

1. Calculate and interpret basic descriptive statistics; summarize data using the appropriate descriptive statistics, measures of central tendency, and measures of dispersion; and distinguish among measures of central tendency and among measures of dispersion.
2. Describe and explain the theory behind inferential statistical techniques, including the concepts of the normal distribution, sampling distribution, central limit theorem, and standard error; generate a sampling distribution; and use the z-table to find areas under the normal curve.

3. Calculate estimates of population parameters from sample statistics using confidence intervals and one-sample hypothesis tests; interpret the estimates; and analyze estimates for appropriateness and usefulness.
4. Conduct various social scientific statistical techniques (including tests of the difference between two means, tests of the difference between two proportions, cross tabulation analysis, one-way analysis of variance, correlation, and regression); describe scenarios when to use each technique; interpret the results of each technique; and analyze the results for appropriateness and usefulness.
5. Use various social scientific statistical techniques to assess research hypotheses and answer research questions; evaluate and critique the uses and results of these techniques found in published research and the media; and develop an appreciation for the use and results of social scientific statistical analysis.
6. Conduct and interpret statistical analyses of social scientific data using computer software (such as Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, SPSS).

Textbook and Materials

There is one required textbook for this course, which is available for free online:

Introductory Statistics from OpenStax (click here for link)

You are also required to download SPSS (which stands for "Statistical Package for the Social Sciences"). SPSS is a statistical software that is used for the computer-based data analysis assignments. Follow these steps to download and install SPSS. Go to (click here for link) and log on with your Campus ID and password. Click on the "KSU Software Downloads" button on the right side of the screen. Click on "My Available Downloads." Scroll down until you see "SPSS Statistics" (don't worry about which version is specified). Click on "View Files." Read the Software Download Agreement; click "Accept and Continue." Choose to "Download File" based on whether you are using a Mac or PC. Follow any instructions or prompts to install the SPSS software on your computer. (You should install on a laptop or desktop. Tablets/phones are not able to run the software.)

The computer you use for this course must have reliable internet access and sound and video capabilities. Many of our videos are in Flash and require a program like iTunes or RealPlayer to view. Both are available free – RealPlayer is available at (click here for link), and iTunes is available at (click here for link).

Because many of our videos are in Flash and you will be using SPSS, you will not be able to rely solely on an iPad or iPhone (or any other tablets/phones) to successfully complete this course. You must have a desktop or laptop computer to complete this course successfully.

Grades
Grades are earned through a variety of activities, assigned throughout the semester. The individual assignment grades earned will determine your final course grade.

Weekly Quizzes are worth a total of 30% of your total course grade.

The Midterm Exam is worth 15% of your total course grade.

The <u>Final Exam</u> is worth 15% of your total course grade.

The <u>SPSS Assignments</u> are worth a total of 30% of your total course grade.

Other <u>Module Activities</u> are worth a total of 10% of your total course grade.

Modules 1 through 14 conclude with multiple choice quizzes given through D2L. Quizzes are open-textbook and open-notes. Quizzes have variable time limits, depending on the length of the quiz. Some quiz questions are definitional, some conceptual, and some involve hand calculations. Students will need to have a calculator and pen/pencil handy while taking the quizzes. The quiz must be completed by the end of the module (Sunday at 11:59pm). Quizzes cannot be submitted after Sunday at 11:59pm for the particular week. Late quizzes are not permitted. If you wait until Sunday to take the quiz, make sure to start it early enough to be done by 11:59pm, when the submission window closes. With the exception of the first quiz (on which students are permitted one attempt), quizzes for Modules 2 through 14 permit two attempts; the highest of the two grades is used in grade calculation. Quiz 1 has 10 questions and a 25 minute window; Quizzes 2-14 have 20 questions and a 60 minute window. After dropping your one lowest quiz grade from the calculation, the remaining 13 quizzes combine to be worth 30% of your final course grade.

Approximately half-way through the semester a midterm exam is given through D2L, and at the conclusion of the semester (during the official final exam week) a final exam is given through D2L. Both of these exams are open-textbook and open-notes. Some exam questions are definitional, some conceptual, and some involve hand calculations. Students will need to have a calculator and pen/pencil handy while taking the exams. The exams must be completed by the end of the module (or final exam week). Exams cannot be taken late. Each exam is comprised of 90 questions; students are given three hours and one attempt for each exam. Make sure to start the exams early enough to be done by midnight (11:59pm). Each exam is worth 15% of your grade; the two exams combine to be worth 30% of your course grade.

Most modules include an SPSS Assignment. I start from the assumption that you do not have any experience with SPSS; therefore, all the instruction you need to use SPSS is provided through posted instructional videos and readings. Before completing the SPSS Assignments, you will want to view the posted instructional videos and read the textbook sections on SPSS. You will then perform an analysis of quantitative data using the SPSS software. Follow the instructions produce the SPSS results needed to answer the questions in the assignment. Type your answers to the questions in one MS Word document; this word document is to be submitted to the appropriate D2L Assignments folder. SPSS Assignments cannot be submitted after its particular module has closed on Sunday at midnight. No late SPSS Assignments will be accepted or graded. After dropping your one lowest grade from the calculation, the 11 remaining SPSS assignments combine to be worth 30% of your final course grade.

For the various module activities (including discussion posts and any other items that are not the weekly quizzes, midterm/final exams, or SPSS assignments), I take all of the points you earned for these module activities and divide the points you received by the number of points possible. Then I multiply the result by 100 so that the grade you receive for this section is out of 100 points. Please refer to your gradebook in D2L for assignments and their total possible points. New assignments in this category may be added as the course progresses. Module activities must be completed before the particular module closes on Sunday at 11:59pm. For discussion posts, the first posting will be graded; if you return and edit your

original post, the edited post will not be graded. After dropping your one lowest module activity grade from the calculation, the remaining module activities are worth 10% of your final course grade.

Assignments are graded, and grades posted, within one week after the assignment due date. If there is to be a delay in grading, I will notify you as soon as possible. For modules 1 through 14, all assignments contained within them must be submitted by midnight (11:59pm) on Sunday, when the module closes. No late module assignments will be graded or accepted. Module materials will remain available for review and study.

The following grading scale is used:

90 % -- 100 % = A

80 % -- 89.9 % = B

70 % -- 79.9 % = C

60 % -- 69.9 % = D

0 % -- 59.9 % = F

Weekly Course Schedule

Unit 1: Univariate Statistics

August 19 – August 25 -- Module 1: Introduction and Review

August 26 – September 1 -- Module 2: Terms and Definitions

September 2 – September 8 -- Module 3: Descriptive Statistics

September 9 – September 15 -- Module 4: Measures of Central Tendency

September 16 – September 22 -- Module 5: Measures of Dispersion

September 23 – September 29 -- Module 6: The Normal Curve

September 30 – October 6 -- Module 7: The Sampling Distribution and Estimation

October 7 – October 13 -- Module 8: One-Sample Hypothesis Tests

October 14 – October 20 -- **MIDTERM EXAM**

Unit 2: Bivariate & Multivariate Statistics

October 21 – October 27 -- Module 9: Two-Sample Hypothesis Tests

October 28 – November 3 -- Module 10: Analysis of Variance

November 4 – November 10 -- Module 11: Chi-Square

November 11 – November 17 -- Module 12: Measures of Association

November 18 – November 24 -- Module 13: Correlation and Regression

November 25 – December 1 -- FALL BREAK

December 2 – December 8 -- Module 14: Multivariate Analysis

December 10 – December 16 -- **FINAL EXAM**

How the Course Works & Expectations

SOCI 3303 is a fully-online course. Each module will become visible at 8:00 am on Monday mornings. You should access, complete, and submit the assignments for each module before midnight on Sunday nights. You can access, complete, and submit the module's assignments anytime between Monday at 8:00 am and Sunday at midnight (specifically 11:59pm). You choose when you access the content within these given time frames. You should expect to spend at least 5 hours per week on this course, including reviewing materials and completing activities.

Students are expected to access the course materials in a timely fashion and to keep up with the course schedule. Late assignments will not be accepted or graded. Because this is a fully online course, there are no deadline extensions. Accommodations for students participating in official University functions (e.g., travel for athletes, debate teams, etc.) are made only if those functions extend for the entire week. All such participation must be documented in writing and submitted at least two weeks prior to the official function.

View the netiquette guidelines (click here for link) for information regarding behavioral expectations for online students.

Plagiarism will be actively pursued and penalized. The typical penalty will be a failing grade for the course (see KSU Plagiarism Information). Start your work early so that you will not be tempted to "cut corners."

Skills & Other Things You Need

You will need basic computer skills. Can you find a web site if you are given a web address? Can you send and receive an email? Can you attach files and open attachments? If you can, then you will probably have few problems with the technology in this course. You will also need regular access to a computer and Internet service. You can use the labs on campus if you buy a set of headphones. Right now, write down two backup places that you will go if your preferred email access point fails. For example, if you try to get on the internet and you find your home access won't work, where will you go? Then, if during the class you have trouble, you can go to your backup place. Can you go to the local library? To the local community college? To your Aunt's house? If you have no backup places, you probably don't need to take this course. In other words, if your internet fails, it may severely hinder your progress in this class. You will need an email account that you check every day, and your facilitator needs that account address. Email failures, like internet failures, can severely hinder your progress in this course.

You will turn in all assignments in the D2L Assignments area unless otherwise assigned. Acceptable formats for turning materials in are: Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx); Plain text (.txt); Portable Document Format (.pdf); Rich Text Format (.rtf); Web pages (.htm, .html).

No other formats are accepted. If you turn in documents in other formats, your work is considered late until you turn in the assignment in the correct format. You do not need to purchase SPSS; in fact I do not recommend it because the full version is very expensive. Students can download and install SPSS from KSU's UITS (strongly recommended), access SPSS through KSU's remote desktop service, or can use SPSS on campus computers. Additional instructions on how to use SPSS will be provided during the semester.

Technical Support & Student Services

Technical support is your responsibility. If a document or file does not open for you, let your instructor know right away. Sometimes your instructor can put information in a different format that you can access more easily. However, if the problem is on your end (your computer, your software, your modem), it is your responsibility to find someone on your end to help you with the problem. If you are on KSU campus, contact service@kennesaw.edu. KSU provides a variety of services to foster and support student success. To learn more, click here: (click here for link).

Academic Policies & Statements

Students are expected to comply with KSU's academic policies, listed here: (click here for link).

Please note that plagiarism detection software is in place in this course for all assignments. Even if you do not turn work in to the Assignments area, your work will be scanned for plagiarism. If you are caught plagiarizing, plagiarism penalties will apply. To learn more about the definition of academic misconduct: (click here for link).

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a course; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement: (click here for link)

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA): (click here for link)

University Student Rights Statement: (click here for link)

Ethics Statement: (click here for link)

Sexual Harassment Statement: (click here for link)

Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement): (click here for link)

Disruption of Campus Life Policy: (click here for link)

Useful Links & Resources

The Writing Center: (click here for link)

Academic Support Services: (click here for link)

Student Disability Services: (click here for link)

ESL Center: ([click here for link](#))

Career Services: ([click here for link](#))

Counseling and Psychological Services: ([click here for link](#))

Center for Health Promotion and Wellness: ([click here for link](#))

Student Health Services: ([click here for link](#))

Accessibility & Privacy Statements

ADA Statement

Kennesaw State University provides program accessibility and reasonable accommodations for persons defined as disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Kennesaw State University's Student Disability Services can be accessed at ([click here for link](#)).

Accessibility Statements

D2L: ([click here for link](#))

SPSS: ([click here for link](#))

VoiceThread: ([click here for link](#))

Panopto: ([click here for link](#))

Kaltura: ([click here for link](#))

SoftChalk: ([click here for link](#))

Privacy Statements

D2L: ([click here for link](#))

SPSS: ([click here for link](#))

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Panopto: ([click here for link](#))

Kaltura: ([click here for link](#))

SoftChalk: ([click here for link](#))

PBWorks: ([click here for link](#))

Code of Academic Integrity: Core Values and Honor Code Pledge

Kennesaw State University students accept the pledge below by virtue of their acceptance into the institution and enrollment in courses. The declaration of principles and obligations within this pledge form

the core mission statement of the Code of Academic Integrity. All subsequent prohibitions and rules of the Kennesaw State University Code of Academic Integrity concretely apply the precepts of this pledge by delineating behaviors that constitute academic misconduct. Should the investigation and/or resolution of alleged academic misconduct reveal that the actual misconduct which occurred is different than the initial allegations (e.g. alleged plagiarism which turns out to have been cheating), the final charge(s) will be modified accordingly. Ultimately, all possible forms of academic misconduct are simply variations upon the common problem of breaching university academic integrity standards. Assignments submitted toward completion of a course are subject to academic misconduct policies, even if the assignments in question do not receive individual grades (like early drafts of papers) or are not required (such as work submitted for extra credit).

Because academic misconduct directly opposes the central academic mission of Kennesaw State University, all such offenses are considered extremely serious. Accordingly, the minimum penalty for such a breach is a one-semester suspension from the university unless the student persuades the deciding body or hearing officer that the circumstances of his or her behavior substantially mitigate the gravity of the violation. If the incident constitutes the student's first academic misconduct offense and the student takes responsibility for the misconduct, the professor and student may agree to an informal resolution and academic sanction(s) in lieu of a formal hearing (and attendant risk of suspension). However, even in such cases, the professor may still pursue formal adjudication if he or she deems the alleged violation is of such an egregious nature as to warrant seeking suspension.

> *As a member of the Kennesaw State University community of scholars, I understand that my actions are not only a reflection on myself, but also a reflection on the University and the larger body of scholars of which it is a part. Acting unethically, no matter how minor the offense, will be detrimental to my academic progress and self-image. It will also adversely affect all students, faculty, staff, the reputation of this University, and the value of the degrees it awards. Whether on campus or online, I understand that it is not only my personal responsibility, but also a duty to the entire KSU community that I act in a manner consistent with the highest level of academic integrity. Therefore, I promise that as a member of the Kennesaw State University community, I will not participate in any form of academic misconduct.*

Types of Academic Misconduct:

1. Cheating. Receiving, attempting to receive, knowingly giving or attempting to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.) is considered cheating, as is engaging in any behavior that a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or class discussion. Unless specifically authorized, using and/or having access to electronic devices during an examination, quiz, test or other assessment is automatically considered cheating, regardless of the student's reason for using/accessing the device;

2. Plagiarism. Including direct quotations from other sources into work required to be submitted for credit without indicating them as such by quotation marks, block quotes or other appropriate formatting.

Incorporating the work of someone (e.g. ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information, illustrations, etc.) into a paper or project without due acknowledgement;

3. Self-Plagiarism. Submitting any work for credit which was not authored specifically and originally for the assignment in question without the prior permission of the professor receiving that assignment. Most commonly, this means submitting the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class;

4. Misrepresentation and/or Falsification. Knowingly providing false information in completing University forms or applications (including admissions forms, scholarship applications, time sheets, false or counterfeit transcripts, etc.) or in any work submitted for credit. This includes providing fabricated/altered documents to substantiate an excused absence (such as to meet attendance requirements or have the chance to make up a missed exam). Signing in for another student or having another individual sign in on a student's behalf on an attendance sheet also constitutes a violation of this code section.

5. Unauthorized Access to University Materials. Taking, attempting to take, stealing or in any unauthorized manner otherwise procuring, gaining access to, altering or destroying any material pertaining to the conduct of a class (including tests, examinations, grade change forms, grade rolls, roll books, laboratory equipment, University grade records in written or computerized form, etc.).

6. Malicious/Intentional Misuse of Computer Facilities/Services. Maliciously or intentionally misusing university-controlled computer facilities and services. This includes violations of state and federal laws (e.g. copyright violations, unauthorized access to systems, alteration/damage/destruction, or attempted alteration/damage/destruction, use for profit, etc.) or a department's rules for computer usage (e.g. account violations, damage, or destruction of the system and/or its performance, unauthorized copying of electronic 19 information, use of threatening or obscene language, etc.).

7. Malicious Removal, Retention or Destruction of University Resource Materials. Misplacing, taking, destroying any item or part of an item belonging to or in the protection of the University (or the attempt thereof) with the intention of bringing about an undue disadvantage in the academic pursuits of other Kennesaw State University students.

Reprinted from "The Kennesaw State University Student Codes of Conduct" (click here for link)

The KSU Writing Center help students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment, visit writingcenter.kennesaw.edu or stop by the English Building, Room 242 (Kennesaw campus) or Johnson Library, Room 121 (Marietta campus).