

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Sociology 311 Introduction to Social Statistics I
Fall, 2017

Instructor:	Dr. Jenny Godley	Class Hours: T, Th 11:00-12:15
Office:	SS922	Class Location: EDC057
Office Hours:	T, Th 1:00-2:00, or by appt.	Lab Hours: Th 15:30 - 18:20
Telephone:	403-220-7566	Lab Location: AFCL, SS018

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Emergency evacuation:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point in the Atrium of Scurfield Hall.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/75>

* Please use email for administrative concerns only. Substantive issues should be addressed in person, either in class, during office hours, or during an appointment time.

NOTE: this course outline is subject to revision. All changes will be announced in class.

Last revised 11 August 2017

Overview:

This is the first of two required statistics courses in Sociology at the University of Calgary. This course focuses on introductory descriptive and inferential statistics, while the second course presents more advanced material. Together, these courses will provide you with the basic tools necessary to conduct, interpret and critique quantitative social science research. In this course, you will learn how to calculate and interpret simple descriptive and inferential statistics. You will also learn how to use a statistical software package, SPSS (available to download for free from the University's IT website), to produce descriptive and inferential statistics. This course assumes fluency in high school level algebra. Statistics is a language; like all languages, it is best learned

through usage. You will be required to calculate and interpret descriptive and inferential statistics, both by hand and using SPSS, throughout this course. You will also have the opportunity to practice collecting and analyzing quantitative data with a mini-research project.

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce you to the theory of statistical analysis.
2. To introduce you to the basic methods of descriptive and inferential statistical analysis, and develop your facility with these methods.
3. To teach you how to use SPSS for descriptive and inferential data analysis both skillfully and intelligently.
4. To enable you to conduct your own mini-research project on a topic of your choice.
5. To illustrate and critique uses of social statistics.
6. To provide a solid foundation for a further course on inferential statistics.

Text:

Statistics: A tool for social research. (Third Canadian Edition). By Joseph F. Healey and Steven G. Prus. (2016).

** Available for purchase at the U of C bookstore. Note: textbooks are now organized alphabetically by author in the bookstore. You need to go to the “He” shelf to find the book.

Requirements:

A. Reading:

Readings are assigned for each day of class. Please come to class every day having read the materials. Bring any questions or comments you have about the readings with you to share with your classmates. Please bring your textbooks to class, as we will refer to them often.

B. Exams:

You will have two mid terms and one final examination. The midterms will each be worth 18% of your final grade, and the final will be worth 34% of your final grade. The mid-terms will be held during lab time (Thursday afternoons) in MS319. The final will take place during the final examination period, and will be scheduled by the Registrar. Exams are mandatory. If you fail to take any of the exams without documentation, you will automatically fail the course.

NOTE: There are NO MAKE UP exams in this class. If you miss the final examination, you must contact the Registrar’s Office immediately. If you miss a mid-term examination, and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, the weight of the midterm exam will be added to your final examination. The only acceptable reasons for missing an examination in this class, as listed in the Deferral of Final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>), are illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction.

C. Practice Questions:

Practice questions are provided at the end of each chapter in the textbook, and the answers are provided at the end of the textbook. You are encouraged to do as many as you can for each chapter, and to check your answers carefully. It is suggested that you complete the exercises *by hand, and in pencil*, and that you show all your calculations. It is your responsibility to make sure that you understand and can do all the practice questions. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to bring them up during class or in office hours. I am happy to work through any of the practice questions with you, either in a group or individually. The practice questions form the basis of the examinations. Remember that on the exams, you will also be required to show many of your mathematical calculations by hand.

D. Lab assignments:

There are three mandatory lab assignments throughout the semester. Each of these assignments will be worth 10% of your grade, for a total of 30%. The lab assignments will be handed out *in the lab sessions*. It is your responsibility to get the lab assignments.

We will not accept e-mail submissions of lab assignments. Only hard copies of lab assignments will be accepted. Lab assignments must be typed and stapled.

NOTE: Late lab assignments will receive a grade reduction of 15% for each day past the deadline. The 15% grade reduction per day also applies to weekend days and holidays. If you hand in your lab more than FIFTEEN MINUTES past the time it is due, it will be considered one day late.

Grades:

Your final grade will be computed as follow:

- Mid Term One	18%
- Mid Term Two	18%
- Lab Assignments	30%
- Final Examination	34%

I will use the following scale to convert percentage grades to letter grades for this class.

A+ = 95-100	A = 90-94	A- = 85-89
B+ = 80-84	B = 75-79	B- = 70-74
C+ = 65-69	C = 60-64	C- = 55-59
D+ = 50-54	D = 45-49	
F = below 45		

The following description of letter grades comes from the University of Calgary Calendar.

- An A indicates superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.
- A B indicates clearly above average performance, with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
- A C indicates satisfactory performance, with a basic understanding of the subject matter.
- A D indicates marginal performance and generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
- An F indicates unsatisfactory performance, or failure to meet course requirements.

Policies:

- A. You are responsible for all the material covered in the textbook, in supplemental readings, during lectures, and during lab sessions.
- B. In the event that you have to miss class, you are responsible for getting the lecture notes from another student in the class.
- C. I will not distribute my personal notes to students under any circumstances.
- D. You may work with other students in the class on the labs and practice questions. However, all submitted work must be YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL WORK. It is your responsibility to make sure you understand the definition of plagiarism, and that you avoid submitting any work which could be considered plagiarized. Students are advised to consult the 2013-2014 University of Calgary Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct. In particular, please note the following statement on penalties for academic misconduct: (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>)
- E. Cell phones, pagers, blackberries, surfing the internet, checking email, and listening to music are disruptive to other students. **No electronic devices** are allowed during class or during lab sessions, with the exception of using a computer to take notes, conduct statistical analysis, or complete lab assignments. If you are using electronic devices for any other reason during class or lab, you will be asked to leave the classroom.
- F. There are no re-writes on any assignments or examinations in this class, and no extra credit work will be given.
- G. If you expect to have trouble meeting *any* of the class deadlines, please make sure to

discuss your concerns with me *before* the deadline.

- H. If you wish to discuss any grades in the class (on examinations, homework assignments, or labs) you must meet with either myself or one of the Teaching Assistants IN PERSON within two weeks of the the date the exam/ assignment is returned, either during office hours or during an appointment time. We will not discuss grades over email.
- I. The U of C Statement on Principles of Conduct, reproduced in the University of Calgary Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>), applies to all work in this class. Please familiarize yourself with this statement.

Additional Information From the Sociology Department

- 1 . Grade Reappraisal: Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reconsidered mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
- 2 . The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
- 3 . Academic Misconduct: Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>
- 4 . Protection of Privacy: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. "If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."
- 5 . Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department and are only available online.
- 6 . Ethical Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.
- 7 . Deferrals: If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. There are no exam deferrals in this course, but if

you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the percentage weight will be transferred to the final exam. Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>
Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf
Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

- 8 . The 2017-18 Students' Union VP Academic is Tina Miller (suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). For more information, and to contact other elected officials with the Student's Union, please visit this link: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/>
You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact>
- 9 . Emergency Evacuation: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at the Social Science Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
- 10 . Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a "safe walk" service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.
- 11 . The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.
Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.
Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Week	Date	Reading	Topic	NOTES
One				
T	12 Sept.		Course Introduction	
Th	14 Sept.	Prologue, Chpt. 1	Math Review, Level of Measurement	
Two				
T	19 Sept.	Chpt. 2	Univariate Descriptive Statistics	
Th	21 Sept.	Chpt. 3	Central Tendency + Dispersion	
Th lab	21 Sept.	Week 2 lab	Intro. to projects, Research Ethics Intro. To SPSS, Intro. To Datasets Chpts. 1 and 2 labs	Survey sheet, Informed consent discussion
Three				
T	26 Sept.	Chpt. 4	Normal Curve, Informed consent discussion	
Th	28 Sept.		NO class	
Th lab	28 Sept.	Week 3 lab	Chpts. 3 - 5 labs	Draft Survey due
Four				
T	3 Oct.	Chpt. 5	Inferential, Informed consent forms	
Th	5 Oct.	Chpt. 6	Estimation	
Th Lab	5 Oct.	Week 4 lab	Lab – Data collection	Data collection!

Five				
T	10 Oct.	Chpts. 7+ 8	Hypothesis testing – 1 and 2 samples	
Th	12 Oct.	Chpts 1-6	Review for Mid term 1	
Th lab	12 Oct.	Week 5 lab	Mid term 1 in MS319 (Chpts 1-6)	
Six				
T	17 Oct.	Chpt. 9	ANOVA	
Th	19 Oct.	Chpt. 9	ANOVA	
Th lab	19 Oct.	Week 6 lab	Chpts. 6-8 labs	Hand out Lab A
Seven				
T	24 Oct.	Chpt. 10	Chi-Square	
Th	26 Oct.	Chpt. 10	Chi Square	
Th lab	26 Oct.	Week 7 lab	Chpt.9 lab	Lab A due
Eight				
T	31 Oct.	Chpt. 11	Bivariate Association - Nominal	
Th	2 Nov.	Chpt. 12	Bivariate Association – Ordinal	
Th lab	2 Nov.	Week 8 lab	Chpt. 10 lab	Hand out Lab B

Nine				
T	7 Nov.	Chpt. 13	Regression	
Th	9 Nov.	Chpt. 13	Regression	
Th lab	9 Nov.	Week 9 lab	Chpts. 11-12 labs	Lab B due
Ten				
T	14 Nov.	Chpt. 13	Regression	
Th	16 Nov.	Chpts. 9-13	Review	
Th lab	16 Nov.	Week 10 Lab	Midterm 2 IN MS319 (Chpts. 1-12)	
Eleven				
T	21 Nov.	Chpt 14	Mult. Regression	
Th	23 Nov.	Chpt 14	Mult. Regression	
Th lab	23 Nov.	Week 11 lab	Chpts. 13 + 14 lab	Hand out Lab C
Twelve				
T	28 Nov.		Elaboration	
Th	30 Nov.		Elaboration	
Th lab	30 Nov.	Week 12 lab	Chpt. 14 lab	Lab C Due

Thirteen

T 5 Dec. Regression Diagnostics

Th 7 Dec. Review for Final

Th lab 7 Dec. No lab

Final Examination (CUMULATIVE – covers the entire course) - Registrar Scheduled during exam time (11-21 December, 2017)
