



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Faculty of Arts
Department of Sociology
Sociology Department Home Page: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

SOCI 311 Introductory Social Statistics I

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall 2018• Lectures: TR 2-3:15pm, SA 106• Labs: T 3:30-6:15pm, Tri Faculties Lab |
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Professor: Naomi Lightman
Office: SS 928
Email: naomi.lightman@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: R: 12:30-1:30pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistants: Amanda Davis, Chanin Seeger and Rebecca Stockton
TA Emails: amanda.davis@ucalgary.ca, caseeger@ucalgary.ca, rstockto@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Hours: T 12:30-1:30pm SS919, W 1-2pm SS941, F 10-11am SS919.

Course Description

Sociology 311 is an introductory social statistics course. This course will emphasize understanding of the logic behind statistical techniques and interpretation of data analysis outputs. The principal goal of SOCI 311 is to introduce students to the fundamentals of statistical reasoning and to the role of statistical methods in social science.

Each week will consist of two 1 hour and 15 minute lectures (on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-3:15pm, SA 106) and one 2 hour and 45 minute lab (Tuesdays, 3:30-6:15, Tri-Faculties Lab), except on weeks when there is an exam. The ten lab sessions will provide students with hands-on experience analyzing and applying the key concepts from lecture using the statistical software program SPSS.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

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

- interpret sociological research that uses basic statistical methods;
- undertake elementary data analysis;
- successfully take more advanced courses in social statistics (e.g. SOCI 315).

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials

The course textbook has been selected to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the key issues covered in the course. We will draw on the textbook in lectures, labs, and in the assignments for this course. It is therefore very important to complete the required readings each week. Knowledge of required readings will be evaluated and graded as part of tests and labs. Students are expected to have done the required readings *by the beginning of Tuesday's class* for each week as per the course schedule.

The required text is available at the university bookstore:

Haan, Michael and Godley, Jenny. 2017. *An Introduction to Statistics for Canadian Social Scientists, 3rd Edition*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press.

Methods of Evaluation

Grade Distribution

Lecture/Lab Participation	10%
Lab Assignments (5 x 5%)	25%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam (Cumulative)	25%

Note: If an opportunity for extra credit arises, this opportunity will be given to the class as a whole. Individual opportunities for extra credit or to make up points lost due to errors on an exam will not be allowed. Consistent with departmental policy, class grades may be adjusted to keep with departmental norms.

Lecture notes

I will post PowerPoint slides on the course D2L for most of the class lectures, and you should print out these slides and bring them to class or have them available on an electronic device capable of note-taking. You will still need to take notes, even if you have the PowerPoint slides. There are no lecture notes besides the PowerPoint slides, so if you miss class you'll need to get the additional lecture notes from another student.

Exams

Only the final exam will be expressly cumulative, but all exams may be indirectly cumulative because they are likely to build on previous material. You will be permitted one 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper (front and back) of notes during each exam. Exams may include a mixture of True/False, multiple choice, short answer, and calculation problems. **You can expect to be required to interpret SPSS output on the exams.**

Exams will be administered during your lab periods. The class will typically have 100 minutes to take an exam. If you arrive late for the exam, you will only have the amount of time remaining allotted for the

exam. Once you begin an exam, it is your performance during the allotted time which will be used to determine your grade. The only exception to this policy is if you must be hospitalized while you are taking the exam. You will not be allowed to retake the exam, sections of the exam, or to complete at a later date problems you may not have answered. You also will not be allowed to take alternative sections of an exam or an alternative exam and substitute or combine your performance on the exam with alternative grades. If you believe that you may have an emergency which will interfere with your performance on the exam, or you arrive late because of an emergency, you need to talk to me about it before you take the exam.

Exam dates are Oct. 2 for Exam 1 and Nov. 6 for Exam 2. The date of the Final Exam is TBD. For each exam, you will be allowed one page of notes, front and back, scratch paper, a writing utensil, and a calculator. Your calculator should have exponent and square root functions. Some calculators can have some unusual displays or function keys, so it's a good idea to make sure you can read your calculator output before an exam. You cannot use a calculator on your phone, laptop, or tablet, but I do not care if you have an otherwise advanced calculator. You are responsible for remembering to bring a calculator to the exam.

Labs

Labs will serve two purposes. First, this will be your opportunity to attempt questions of the type you will see on the exams, but with a T.A. or the professor available to help you. In addition, you will learn and apply the SPSS computer program to analyze data using statistics being covered in class. Lab assignments will be a mix of work problems and SPSS exercises. Lab assignments will be turned in through D2L. Due dates will be on the lab assignment, and if the lab is turned in after the due date, 50% of the total marks possible will be deducted from the lab before any marks are deducted for errors. Because a central purpose of the labs is to prepare you for the exams, no lab assignments will be accepted after the final day of classes.

Participation

10% of your grade will be based on lecture and lab participation. Students should not expect to get high marks if they do not participate in (as well as attend) labs regularly.

Final Exam Information

The final exam is cumulative and worth 25% of your final grade. It will be held during the formal exam period with the exact date and time to be determined by the registrar.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent-superior performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance

B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory - basic understanding
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal pass - marginal performance
F	<50%	0	unsatisfactory performance

The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.

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 professor explaining the basis for reconsideration of their mark. The professor 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 re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Email

The Teaching Assistants will be *your first point of contact* about questions regarding the course. Please contact your assigned Teaching Assistant based on the first letter of your last name, using the following schema:

A-G → Amanda Davis

H-N → Chanin Seeger

O-Z → Rebecca Stockton

Feel free to contact the T.A.s or professor over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. All emails violating customary email conventions will be ignored. All other emails will be answered within two business days. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline will not be answered. Also, please e-mail me for administrative purposes only, for example to set up an appointment. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for an office visit, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.

Course Schedule

Please note: Every attempt will be made to follow this schedule, but it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Week 1 – Sept. 6. Course Introduction

Note: The first lecture will provide an overview of the course. Students are expected to have read the course syllabus; course policies, assignments and expectations will be reviewed only briefly, on a Q&A basis.

- Haan & Godley Chapter 1

Week 2 – Sept. 11 & 13. Basic Math & Univariate Statistics.

- Haan & Godley Chapters 2 & 3.
- Lab #1

Week 3 – Sept. 18 & 20. Introduction to Probability & The Normal Curve.

- Haan & Godley Chapters 4 & 5
- Lab #2
- Lab Assignment #1 is due on Sept. 21st on D2L by midnight

Week 4 – Sept. 25 & 27. Measures of Central Tendency & Dispersion.

- Haan & Godley Chapter 6
- Lab #3

Week 5 – Oct. 2 & 4. Review & Catch Up.

- No required reading
- No lab

Note: Exam #1 will be held on Oct. 2nd from 3:30-5:30pm.

Week 6 – Oct. 9 & 11. Standard Deviation, Standard Scores, & the Normal Distribution; Review.

- Haan & Godley Chapter 7
- Lab #4
- Lab Assignment # 2 is due on Oct. 12th on D2L by midnight

Week 7 – Oct. 16 & 18. Sampling; Generalizing from Samples to Populations.

- Haan & Godley Chapter 8 & 9
- Lab #5

Week 8 – Oct. 23 & 25. Hypothesis Testing

- Haan & Godley Chapter 10 & 11
- Lab #6
- Lab Assignment #3 is due on October 26th on D2L by midnight

Week 9 – Oct. 30 & Nov. 1. Bivariate Statistics for Nominal Data.

- Haan & Godley, Chapter 12
- Lab #7

Week 10 – Nov. 6 & 8. Review & Catch Up.

- No required reading
- No Lab

Note: Exam #2 will be held on Thursday Nov. 6th, from 3:30-5:30pm.

NO CLASS Nov. 13 & 15 Due to Reading Week

Week 11 – Nov. 20 & 22. Bivariate Statistics for Interval/Ratio Data; ANOVA

- Haan & Godley Chapter 14 & 15
- Lab #8
- Lab Assignment #4 is due on November 23rd on D2L by midnight

Week 12 – Nov. 27 & 29. OLS Regression

- Haan & Godley Chapter 16
- Lab #9

Week 13 – Dec. 4 & 6 Wrapping Up & Review.

- No required reading
- Lab #10
- Lab Assignment #5 is due on December 7th on D2L by midnight

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at Social Science Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **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.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Ethics 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 Faculty 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.

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>

Deferrals

When possible, please provide advance notice 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. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

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).

Student Representation

The 2018-19 Students' Union VP Academic is Jessica Revington (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>

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.

Academic Accommodation

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.

Student Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#)

[Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)