



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

Spring 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Introductory Social Statistics I			
Course Number	SOCI 311		
Pre/Co-Requisites	SOCI 201		
Instructor Name	Hamid Akbary	Email:	akbary.sayed@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	<p>Class announcements will be sent out over e-mail, so you'll need to make sure that the university has your correct e-mail address and that your e-mail account is in working order. <b>Due to the complexity of course material, some questions about course content may not be answered over email. Instead, you must meet with the course instructor, Hamid, or a Teaching Assistant (TA) over Zoom if you have questions.</b> We will make every effort to reply to your e-mails within 24 hours (not counting weekends), but it may take up to 24 hours to respond.</p> <p><b>A brief note on email etiquette.</b> When emailing Hamid or the TAs, your email MUST always contain the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "SOCI 311" should be in the subject line of the email. Emails that do not include "SOCI 311" in the subject line may not be read or acknowledged.</li> <li>• You should put the issue you are emailing about in the body of your email, using correct sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation.</li> <li>• You should sign your name and include your student number.</li> </ul>		
Office Location	This class is online, and I will not be on campus for Spring 2021	Office Hours	Mondays 3:30-4:30pm and by appointment
Telephone No.	Since Hamid will not be in the office this semester, calls to his office will not be answered or returned. Email is the best way to reach Hamid.		
TA Name	Mojtaba Rostami	TA Email	mojtaba.rostami1@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	Virtual (Zoom)	TA Office Hours	TBA
TA Name	Courtney Baay	TA Email	courtney.baay@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	Virtual (Zoom)	TA Office Hours	TBA

<b>Class Dates</b>	May 5, 2021 to June 17, 2021
<b>Class Times</b>	<p><b>Lectures:</b> There is no specific class time for lectures because all lectures will be delivered asynchronously. Pre-recorded video lectures will be uploaded on D2L every Monday. Hence, students are not expected to be available for lectures at any given time.</p> <p><b>Labs:</b> Students are expected to attend the labs through Zoom 1:00-3:45pm every Tuesday and Thursday. Students will be provided with a Zoom link for the labs on D2L. Students are highly encouraged to attend the labs in order to have their questions related to the lab assignments and course materials answered. Please note that, unlike lectures, labs will NOT be recorded. Students who have a scheduling conflict must attempt to access the computer lab at another time. Labs will begin on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<b>Class Location</b>	Online

**Course Description**

Univariate and bivariate statistics for survey data. Topics include cross tabular analysis, the normal distribution, confidence intervals for means, hypothesis testing, Chi-squared and F distributions and bivariate linear regression analysis. In labs, a statistical software to analyze survey data will be used.

**Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, students should have knowledge and understanding of the basic means of describing survey data, as well as how sociologists can use survey data to extrapolate to a population. This includes being able to identify levels of measurement, describing patterns of central tendency and dispersion within measures, estimating confidence intervals, and choosing the correct statistical procedure to answer a research question involving one variable or a relationship between two variables. Students should be able to use Stata to describe distributions of categorical and continuous variables, relationships between categorical or continuous measures, and basic inferential procedures, including confidence intervals and appropriate hypothesis testing. This course is intended to provide students with the statistical skills to 1) prepare them for more advanced courses (including SOCI 315) and 2) facilitate reading and understanding of the wider sociological literature.

**Course Format**

This course requires synchronous student involvement for the labs but asynchronous involvement for the lectures. In other words, the format of the course includes a hybrid of both synchronous and asynchronous student involvement, as the lectures will be entirely asynchronous whereas the labs – taking place 1:00-3:45pm every Tuesday and Thursday– will be entirely synchronous. The instructor will upload the pre-recorded video lectures and other course content (e.g., PowerPoint slides, lab assignments, etc.) on D2L. The students can attend the lectures at their own convenience. However, it is highly recommended that students go through the weekly lectures prior to attending the labs, so that they are able to make sense of the lab demonstrations and complete the lab assignments and quizzes. To attend the labs, you will need to log into a lab computer remotely through the university VPN, and we will have the lab reserved for students of this class 1:00-3:45pm every Tuesday and Thursday. Students who have a scheduling conflict must attempt to access the

computer lab at another time on their own. Directions on how to use the university VPN will be provided on D2L.

## Learning Resources

The class has one required textbook. The physical and e-copy of the textbook can be purchased through the university bookstore. Neither the physical copy nor the e-copy will be posted to D2L.

- Cooper, Jonathon A., Peter A. Collins, and Anthony Walsh. 2015. *Understanding and Using Statistics for Criminology and Criminal Justice*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

## Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which will contain all lecture videos and PowerPoint slides, as well as the data you will use in labs and sample Stata syntax (see [d2L.ucalgary.ca](http://d2L.ucalgary.ca)).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Pre-recorded video lectures and PowerPoint slides will be posted on D2L as the class progresses. Students should use the slides to follow along with the recorded lectures posted on D2L. Following along with the recorded lectures is especially important because students will still need to take notes, even if the PowerPoint slides are available. There are no lecture notes besides the PowerPoint slides. Students will be notified by email when a set of slides and recordings are posted on D2L. Please note that all lectures are asynchronous, but the labs component of the course will be synchronous. The labs will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:45 pm. The first lab will occur on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Weeks/Dates	Readings	Lecture
Week 1: May 5 – May 7	Chapter 1. Introduction to Statistical Analysis Chapter 2. Presenting Data	Asynchronous
Week 2: May 10 – May 14	Chapter 3. Central Tendency and Dispersion Chapter 4. Probability and the Normal Curve	Asynchronous
Week 3: May 17 – May 21	Chapter 5. The Sampling Distribution and Estimation Procedures	Asynchronous
Week 4: May 25 – May 28	Chapter 6. Hypothesis Testing: Interval/Ratio Data	Asynchronous
Week 5: May 31 – June 4	Chapter 7. Analysis of Variance	Asynchronous
Week 6: June 7 – June 11	Chapter 8. Hypothesis Testing with Categorical Data: Chi Square	Asynchronous
Week 7: June 14 – June 17	Chapter 11. Bivariate Correlation and Regression	Asynchronous

## Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

### Quizzes.

The class will have quizzes that will be posted to D2L every Monday with the only exception of the first week when the quiz will be posted on Wednesday (first day of class). Each quiz will be composed of 10-20 true/false and multiple-choice questions. It is estimated that each quiz will take no more than 1 hour to complete. The D2L system will, however, be set up to allow 3 hours to complete each quiz. Students can take the quiz at any time between when the quiz is posted to D2L and the end of the week (Friday at 11:59pm) with the exception of the last day of the course when the quiz will be due on Thursday at 11:59pm. Please see the table at the end of this section for quiz and lab deadlines.

Please be aware that, when taking a quiz, only one question will be displayed on a page. Students will **not** be allowed to go back once they have submitted an answer. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that they have selected an answer they intended before moving on to the next question. It is also the student's responsibility to ensure that they finish the quiz in the allotted time. Once a student has submitted the quiz, the student **cannot** go back and change answers or re-take the quiz.

Quizzes will focus on material recently covered in class. However, because knowledge in statistics is cumulative, all quizzes may address any material covered up to that point in class. Students will **not** need to use Stata for the quizzes but may be asked to interpret Stata output on the quizzes.

All quizzes are take-home and open-book. Students may use all lecture and lab materials in answering the questions, including the lecture videos; students may also use the required textbook listed on the course outline. Students may **not** use any other resource to complete the quizzes. Prohibited resources include (but are not limited to): friends, family, and other students in the class; tutors, your instructor and TAs; and google, web pages, twitter, and other electronic resources. If a student is unclear on whether a resource is prohibited, the student should contact Hamid **before** using the resource.

If a student experiences connectivity or other electronic issues while taking a quiz that prevent completing the quiz in the 3-hour time-period, the student should contact Hamid immediately. The student should not wait until the grades are posted.

There are seven quizzes in this course, all of which together will be worth 55% of a student's final grade.

### Labs.

Labs will serve two purposes. First, labs will be a student's opportunity to answer questions regarding material that will be addressed on the quizzes, but with a T.A. or instructor available for assistance. Second, students will learn and apply the Stata computer program to analyze data using statistical procedures that are being covered in class. Lab assignments will be a mix of work problems and Stata exercises. Labs should be turned in through the appropriate folder on D2L.

Labs will be held synchronously at specific days and times of labs reserved, which will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:45pm. You will need to log into a University of Calgary lab computer remotely through the university VPN, and we will have the lab reserved for students of this class on that day and time. Students who have a scheduling conflict must attempt to access the computer lab at another time on their own. The first lab will occur on May 6<sup>th</sup>. You will need to log into a lab

computer remotely through the university VPN. Directions on how to use the university VPN will be provided on D2L.

Labs will be due at 11:59pm every Thursday, but due dates will also be on the lab assignment. If a student does not turn in the lab by this date and time, the D2L folder will close and the student will need to email the assignment directly to Hamid. If the lab is turned in after the due date and does not meet the policy for deferrals, 50% of the total marks possible will be deducted from the lab before any marks are deducted for errors.

If a student turns in a lab assignment partially completed, no additional aspects of the assignment will be accepted after the due date. Furthermore, if a student accidentally turns in the wrong assignment and does not realize this until after the due date, the student will not be allowed to turn in the correct assignment for credit after the due date. A student is free to turn in an updated assignment before the due date; the TAs will consider the most recently turned-in assignment for grading. It is the student's responsibility to check and make sure that their lab is complete and submitted before the deadline.

Absolutely no handwriting or pictures of handwriting should be turned in as a lab answer; hand-written drawings of figures or pictures of hand-written drawings are also not acceptable. Answers of this type will not receive lab credit.

There are six lab assignments in this course, all of which together will be worth 45% of a student's final grade.

<b>Weeks/Dates</b>	<b>Lab Assignment/Quiz</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Week 1	Quiz 1	11:59pm, Friday, May 7	7%
Week 2	Lab 1	11:59pm, Thursday, May 13	7.5%
	Quiz 2	11:59pm, Friday, May 14	8%
Week 3	Lab 2	11:59pm, Thursday, May 20	7.5%
	Quiz 3	11:59pm, Friday, May 21	8%
Week 4	Lab 3	11:59pm, Thursday, May 27	7.5%
	Quiz 4	11:59pm, Friday, May 28	8%
Week 5	Lab 4	11:59pm, Thursday, June 3	7.5%
	Quiz 5	11:59pm, Friday, June 4	8%
Week 6	Lab 5	11:59pm, Thursday, June 10	7.5%
	Quiz 6	11:59pm, Friday, June 11	8%
Week 7	Lab 6	11:59pm, Thursday, June 17	7.5%
	Quiz 7	11:59pm, Thursday, June 17	8%

## Final Exam Information

There will be no final exam for this class, as grades will be based on the lab assignments and quizzes.

## 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 – 95.9999%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.9999%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.9999%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.9999%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.9999%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.9999%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.9999%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.9999%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.9999%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.9999%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

## Passing Grades

Students need to obtain a cumulative percent that is equivalent to a “D” letter grade as indicated above in order to pass this course. However, it is not necessary to pass all of the evaluation components in the course to obtain a passing grade.

## Absences and Deferrals

When possible, students should provide advance notice if they are unable to complete a quiz or turn-in assignments on time. Students who miss class assessments should inform Hamid as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, Hamid may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

**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 can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre ([ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)) for approval by the Associate Dean.

### Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the quiz/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of quizzes or assignments must either submit a written response to Hamid explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark or meet with Hamid and discuss the basis for reconsideration. Only asking for re-grading is not sufficient; students must explain why they believe changes in grades are appropriate. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same. Please direct all requests for grade reappraisals to Hamid, not the TAs.

### 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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

### Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms.



For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit:

[https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/)

When meeting with a TA or Hamid, students may be asked to share their screens primarily so that Hamid or a TA can help the student with Stata work.

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

## Media Recording

### ***\*Media recording for lesson capture***

Hamid will post videos of all lectures. These recordings are intended to be used by students registered in the class and not for any other purpose.

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: [https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

### **\*Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

### **\*Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

### **\*Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

## Research Ethics

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 Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. 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.

### Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ( <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf> ) and requirements of the Copyright Act ( <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html> ) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure](#).

### Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

### 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.html>

### Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. Please refer to the [policy on Student Accommodations](#). Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

## Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

## Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

## Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

## Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) or email [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

## Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca); Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

## Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

## Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.