



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

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

Sociology 315 Introductory Social Statistics II

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| • Fall 2018 | • MWF 1:00-1:50 W 3:00-5:45 | • KNB126 Tri-Faculties Lab |
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Course Description

This course focuses on multivariate statistics. It includes topics such as multiple regression, dichotomous predictors, non-linear relationships, interaction analysis and logistic regression. The course will briefly review and expand on the material learned in SOCI 311 (Introductory Social Statistics I). Each week will consist of three 50 minute lectures (MWF in SA 106) and one two hour and forty-five minute lab (Tri-Faculties Lab). The lab will provide students with hands-on experience analyzing and applying the key concepts from lecture using a large sample survey and the statistical software program SPSS. Students for whom the current 311 curricula is unfamiliar may need to perform additional work to become sufficiently familiar with the background material.

Course Objectives

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

- **Understand and apply** basic OLS regression to the study of sociologically-based research questions;
- **Be familiar** with the concepts of statistical control, mediation and interaction, and understand why these are commonly used in the social sciences;
- **Employ** a dichotomous predictor in a multivariate regression model using SPSS and run and analyze regression models with dichotomous outcome variables; and
- **Articulate** their own, methodologically grounded opinions about contemporary developments related to issues covered in the course.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials

1. Linneman, Thomas J. 2014. *Social Statistics: Managing Data, Conducting Analyses, Presenting Results, 2nd Edition*. New York: Routledge.

Methods of Evaluation

Labs x5	25%
Exam 1 (Feb 13)	20%
Exam 2 (Mar 27)	25%
Final Exam (April 17)	30%

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.

Grading 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

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Reading assignments will be given out over email as the class progresses. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the reading assignments.

Course Format

The course setup consists of two 1 hour and 15 minute class lectures per week and one 2 hour and 45 minute lab section per week.

The purpose of the lab is to practice with your TA's assistance questions of the type that will appear on your exam. The labs will also examine how to use SPSS to analyze data with the procedures covered in class.

Note: It is possible that concepts covered in lab may appear on exams. You should plan to attend both the lab and the lecture, and are responsible in all exams for any material presented in either lecture or lab.

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 (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 STATA output on the exams.**

Exams will be administered during your lab periods. The class will typically have two hours 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. You will not be allowed to retake the exam, sections of the exam, or 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. Once you begin the exam, it is your performance on that exam, during the time allotted for the exam, which will determine your grade. The only exception to this policy is if you must be hospitalized while you are taking the exam.

Exam dates are Feb. 13 for exam 1 and March 27 for exam 2 and April 17 for the Final Exam. 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 (square) 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.

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. available to help you. In addition, you will learn and apply the STATA computer program to analyze data using statistics being covered in class. Lab assignments will be a mix of work problems and STATA exercises. Labs will typically be turned in through D2L the week after lab. 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.**

Course Schedule

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the test/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of tests 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 re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Email

Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number 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 tests. 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 in depth. 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.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to me.
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.

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 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-2-1.html>

Absences and 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](mailto:suwpaca@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>

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at **MacEwan Student Centre – North Courtyard**. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Laptop usage is allowed in class, but should be used for notes only. Other uses (e.g., emailing, web surfing) will result in the student being required to turn off the laptop.

- Videotaping and recording lectures is strictly forbidden without written permission from the instructor.

Student Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#)

[Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)