UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2020

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

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

LABS WILL TYPICALLY BE HELD IN THE ARTS FACULTY COMPUTER LAB.

COURSE TITLE: Introductory Social Statistics II			
Course Number	SOCI 315 - 02		
Pre/Co-Requisites	SOCI 311		
Instructor Name	Alex Bierman	**Email**	aebierma@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	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. **Due to the complexity of course material, questions about course content will not be answered over email by your instructor or TAs. You must come to office hours or arrange a meeting in-person if you have questions about course material.**. 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. **A brief note on email etiquette**. When emailing the professor, your email should always contain certain elements. First, "SOCI 315" should be in the subject line of the email. Second, your email should start out, "Dr. Bierman" or "Professor Bierman." You should then put the issue you are emailing about in the body of your email, using correct sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation. If you are emailing an assignment, you should indicate that the assignment is attached and, if the assignment is deferred, the reason for the deferral. You should also sign your name and include your student number. Please note that your instructor may ask that you re-send your email if it does not conform to these specifications. In addition, emails that do not include "SOCI 315" in the subject line may not be acknowledged.		
Office Location	SS902	**Office Hours**	11 am to noon, Tues & Thur. on Zoom.
Telephone No.	Email is the best way to reach me.		

TA Name	Jie Miao	**TA Email**	jie.miao@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	SS945	**TA Office Hours**	Mondays: 1pm-2:30pm on Zoom.
TA Name	Sayed Akbary	**TA Email**	akbary.sayed@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	SS911	**TA Office Hours**	**FRIDAYS**: 1 pm-2:30 pm on Zoom.
TA Name	Claire Link	**TA Email**	claire.link@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	SS917	**TA Office Hours**	Mondays: 9am-10:30am on Zoom.
Class Dates	2020/01/14 - 2020/04/14		
Class Times	Lecture: 9:30AM - 10:45AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays Lab: 3:30 to 6:15 PM on Thursdays		
Class Location	Lecture: AD142 Labs: **Labs will typically be held in the Arts Faculty computer lab in the basement of the Social Sciences Building.** The only exception to this will be on days on which we have exams. Exams will be held during lab, but in **AD 140**. Please note that **this is room is different from where lecture is held**.		

Course Description

This course will focus on multivariate statistics. It will include topics such as multiple regression, dichotomous predictors, non-linear relationships, tests of mediation, and interaction analysis. Please note that this course will expand on the material learned in SOCI 311. We will begin with a brief review of concepts from SOCI 311 before introducing new topics, but familiarity with material from SOCI 311 is expected.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should have knowledge and understanding of the application of the basic OLS regression model to the study of sociologically-based research questions. Students should be familiar with the concept of statistical control and why statistical controls are commonly used in the social sciences, as well as employ statistical control in an OLS context using the Stata statistical program. Students should also be able to identify and employ a dichotomous predictor or set of dichotomous predictors in a multivariate regression model using Stata. Students should also have an appreciation of the way that mediation can be used to explain associations, as well as how mediation can be tested using progressive adjustment and specific statistical tests. Moreover, students should be familiar with the purpose of interactions to test moderation, and understand how to employ these interactions in Stata. Students should also be prepared to identify non-linear associations between two continuous variables, and use quadratic modeling techniques in Stata to address non-linearity.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Mehmetoglu, Mehmet and Tor Georg Jakobsen. 2017. *Applied Statistics Using Stata: A Guide for the Social Sciences*. Sage Press. (ISBN: 9781473913233)

Readings based on articles available through the library website may also be assigned.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

PowerPoint slides will be posted on D2L for most of the class lectures as the class progresses. Students should print out these slides and follow along with the recorded lectures posted on D2L.

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 recording are posted to D2L. The email will also indicate the reading assignment that corresponds to the posted lecture. It is the student's responsibility to complete readings based on these assignments.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Exams.

We will have pne midterm exams in this class, and this will be the only exam. **You can expect to be required to interpret Stata output on the exam**.

The dates of the midterm exam will be February 13th. The class will typically have two hours to take the exam. If you arrive late for the exam, then you will only have the amount of time remaining allotted for the exam. For instance, if you arrive half an hour after an exam is handed out, you will have only 90 minutes to take 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. 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 Dr. Bierman 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 have a medical emergency while you are taking the exam.

Exam 1 will be worth 25% of your grade.

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. available to help you. In addition, you 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 typically be due on the Tuesday following lab by 1 pm., but due dates will be on the lab assignment. If you do not turn in the lab by this date and time, the D2L folder will close and you will need to email your assignment directly to Dr. Bierman. 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.

The only exception to this policy will be when a lab is due on the Tuesday before an exam is held. In this case, the lab must be turned in by the due date, or the lab will be given a mark of 0. This is because we will post the answer key for the lab on D2L to aid in student preparation for the exam. **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 on April 14that 4:30 pm**.

If you turn in an assignment partially completed, no additional aspects of the assignment will be accepted after the due date. Furthermore, if you accidentally turn in the wrong assignment and do not realize this until after the due date, you will not be allowed to turn in the correct assignment for

credit after the due date. You are free to turn in an updated assignment before the due date, though; D2L will be set so that only the most recently turned-in assignment is retained for grading.

The lab average will be worth 25% of your final grade. Your lab average will be calculated in the following manner. All marks that you have earned throughout the semester will be added together. This will then be divided by the sum of all marks possible on labs throughout the semester. Multiplying this value by 100 will produce a lab average.

We will have a total of 7 labs in this class, but lab 7 will be optional. If you do not turn in lab 7, you your grade will not be affected, and your lab average will be based on your average for the first six labs. In addition, if you turn in lab 7 but would prefer that it not count towards your grade, you should email the instructor by April 14th at 4:30 p.m. You may also turn in lab 7 until April 14th at 4:30 p.m. without penalty for being turned in late.

Extra Credit.

Extra credit assignments are not typically offered, but if an opportunity for extra credit arises, this opportunity will be given to the class as a whole. Individual opportunities for extra credit will not be allowed.

Class Assignments.

Class assignments will be used to assess student learning following lab 7. Each assignment will accompany a lecture on a topic. The lecture may take multiple days, and be broken into several parts. However, a lecture on a specific topic will all have the same overall number. For example, Lecture 7, part1 and Lecture 7, part 2, will both refer to one topic, and there will be one assignment associated with all parts of Lecture 7,

Assignments will be due one week after it is estimated that a recorded lecture should end. Estimation of the time a recorded lecture will take will be based on class sessions for a typical in-person class. For example, it may be expected that Lecture X (in all parts) would normally take three class sessions to complete. Based on this, if lecture X was posted on April 17th, the assignment association with Lecture X would be due on March 31st. When each lecture is posted to D2L, the class will be notified by email as to how many class sessions the lecture is expected to correspond to, as well as the subsequent due date for the associated assignment. If the assignment 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 assignment before any marks are deducted for errors.

Class assignments will be a mix of true/false, multiple choice, and work problems. Work problems may require hand calculations, but all hand calculations should be shown using word processing software; no pictures of handwriting will be allowed, and all answers involving handwriting will be given no credit. The same policy will apply when figures need to be drawn—no handwritten figures will be allowed. Students will **not** utilize statistical software in weekly assignments, but may be required to interpret or ascertain additional information from output derived from statistical

software. Students may also be required to indicate commands used to obtain specific analyses in statistical software.

Class assignments will be worth 50% of your grade. Class assignments will not be accepted after Thursday, April 21st, at 3:00 p.m.

Calculation of Final Average.

The final average will be calculated according to this formula: (Exam 1 percentage *0.25)+(Weekly Assignment Average*0.50)+(Lab average*0.25). The final average will be calculated in Excel and Excel will be set to round the final average to the fourth decimal. Please note that Dr. Bierman will **not** round up when assigning a letter grade. For example, if your final average is 89.9999 when rounded to the fourth decimal, this will convert to an A-, not an A.

Final Exam Information

There will not be a final in this class.

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

You do **not** have to pass all exams to receive a passing grade in the class. You also do **not** have to pass the labs or having a passing lab average to pass the class. Your letter grade is entirely based on the formula and procedures described in the calculations of your final average described above.

Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must either submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark, or meet with the instructor 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. In the event of an in-person meeting, the instructor may not make an immediate decision regarding a change of grade. It should be noted that a re- assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same. Please note that it is Dr. Bierman, not a TA, who is responsible for all grade reappraisals.

Preferred Name & Preferred Gender Pronouns

Class rosters are provided to Dr. Bierman with the student's legal name. Your instructor and TAs will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise Dr. Bierman of this preference in person or by email so that we may make appropriate changes to my records. (Adapted from: https://studentlife.tamu.edu//syllabus-statements/)

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.

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.

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/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.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.

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

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. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction, religious conviction, or participation in a school-sponsored activity. Please see Dr. Bierman **before** the need for a deferral to ensure that participation in a school-sponsored activity will qualify; for example, attending an event as a spectator will not qualify. 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.

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 also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at:
https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/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).

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/. 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. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

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/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or 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.