

Elementary Statistics

ORGB-C260-052

Wednesday 6²⁰-9⁰⁰pm

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Course Overview:

This course is intended to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of the variety of statistical procedures utilized within the field of criminal justice. Apart from a purely statistical awareness, students will also be exposed to crime policy, national crime reporting mechanisms, policing experiments, and many inappropriate uses of criminal justice data evident in modern society.

Course Objectives:

Students should, at the conclusion of this course, be enabled with the skills and skepticism to detect inappropriate uses of criminal justice data, understand basic mechanisms of crime policy processes, and appreciate the many intricacies of statistical analysis. Students should also be competent in deciding which statistical procedure to utilize in any given situation.

Required Text:

Vito, G., & Blankenship, M. (2002). Statistical Analysis in Criminal Justice: A User's Guide. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Attendance/Participation:

Student attendance is mandatory. The field of statistics can be demanding, with each new topic building on the previous. In order to build a firm foundation of statistical competence students must attend class. Students not in attendance at class meetings will not develop the skills necessary to succeed in this course.

Exams:

There will be three regular exams proctored throughout the semester. Each exam will be worth 100 points. In addition, students will be called upon to complete small tasks in class. Therefore, class participation will be worth 5 points for each class period for a total of 70 points. The final exam will be worth 200 points.

Make-up Exams:

Any student wishing to schedule a make-up exam must contact the instructor PRIOR to the regularly scheduled exam time. Students may telephone, e-mail, or leave a written message for the instructor. Make-up exams will be scheduled for any student failing to make contact prior to the regular exam time and date at the instructor’s discretion.

Grading:

Grades will be calculated based on a points scale. There will be no curving of grades.

The grading scale is as follows:

3 exams 100 points per =	300
Class participation 5 per day =	70
Final exam =	200
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	570

A	570 – 513
B	512 – 456
C	455 – 428
D	427 – 342
F	341 - Below

Final Examination:

The final exam will be proctored during the final exam time outlined by the university. The exam will be worth 200 points. There will be no make-up final exams.

Course Schedule:

August 27	Opening Remarks <u>Chapter 1: The Purpose of Statistical Analysis</u> UCR-NIBRS-NCVS Calls for Service Routine Activities Theory
September 3	<u>Chapter 2: Basic Elements of Criminal Justice Research</u> Theory, Hypotheses, Variables Research Process Program Evaluation
September 10	<u>Chapter 3: Summarizing Data and Presenting the Results</u> Bar Charts, Pie Charts, Histograms, Line Graphs
September 17	Exam #1: Chapters 1-3

September 24	Return & Go Over Exam #1 <u>Chapter 4: Measures of Central Tendency</u> Frequency Distribution Mean, Median, Mode Skewed Distribution Nominal, Ordinal, Interval, Ratio Level Data
October 1	<u>Chapter 5: Measures of Dispersion</u> Range, Variance, Standard Deviation <u>Chapter 6: Probability and the Normal Curve</u> Law of Probability Craps & Gambling Normal Curve Binomial Distribution Central Limit Theorem Confidence Intervals
October 8	Exam #2: Chapters 4 - 6
October 15	Return & Go Over Exam #2 <u>Chapter 7: Difference Between Means: The t-Test</u> t distribution Hypothesis Testing
October 22	<u>Chapter 8: Analysis of Variance</u> Anova F-Test
October 29	<u>Chapter 9: Correlation</u> Defining Correlation Interpreting Correlation Causation
November 5	<u>Chapter 10: Regression</u> Regression Coefficients Linear Regression
November 12	Exam #3: Chapters 7 - 10
November 19	I am out of town at ASC Conference
November 26	Thanksgiving Holiday

December 3

Last Class Day!

Chapter 11: Contingency Table Analysis

Nonparametric Statistics

Constructing Contingency Tables

Chi-Square

Chapter 12: The Use of Statistics in Policy Analysis

Purpose of Research

Kansas City Preventive Patrol

Kansas City Gun Experiment

Capital Punishment

Review for Final Exam

December 10

Final Exam