

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY – BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
PSY 2307 COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2018

Course Title:	Introduction to Statistics for Behavioral Sciences
Required Text:	Blatchley, B. (2019). <i>Statistics in context</i> . New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
Recommended Software:	SPSS 25.0 for Windows - Student Version – You can purchase a 6 month license of the software at https://estore.onthehub.com/WebStore/OfferingDetails.aspx?o=a7ab01f5-4a84-e711-80f3-000d3af41938&pmv=fc2dece7-5e83-e711-80f3-000d3af41938 (Note that there is also a version for Mac)
Contact Information:	A. Trotman, PhD – alicia.trotman@sulross.edu
Office (LH 306) Hours:	Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays (12:30 – 1:30pm) & Thursdays (12:30 - 2:30pm)
Prerequisites:	None

Course Description:

The student will acquire an understanding of the statistics as a professional tool in social and behavioral sciences with major emphasis on data description, organization, analysis and minor emphasis on prediction.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Major:

- 1) Read and comprehend basic quantitative results in journal articles.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams
- 2) Identify and describe the use of basic descriptive statistics, including distinguishing the four measurement scales.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams
- 3) Differentiate between descriptive and inferential statistics, and independent and dependent variables.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams
- 4) Calculate frequencies, measures of central tendency, and dispersion, and use statistical software to perform analyses.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams
- 5) Interpret central limit theorem and z-scores and perform analyses with statistical software.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams

Minor:

- 6) Use statistical software to calculate correlations and “significance” testing.
Method of Assessment: Quizzes, participation and exams

Course Requirements:

- 1) **The text must be obtained.**
- 2) Respect for students and lecturer must be maintained at all times when we meet. Respect is a basic human characteristic that entitles each person to their own right and identity. It also helps to nurture a healthy learning environment. If you recognize that respecting others may be a problem, please be courteous and alert me or more suitable personnel (e.g. Sul Ross State University psychologists, family members, lecturers, close friends) and or refer to the Student Conduct and Discipline section of the [SRSU Student Handbook](#).

AMERICANS with DISABILITIES ACT STATEMENT:

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. **In order to receive accommodations on exams or assignments, you must first provide proper documentation to the Office of Counseling and Accessibility Services.** Please contact Mary Schwartze, Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator in Counseling and Accessibility Services (Office: 112 Ferguson Hall) to set up an accommodations meeting, call (432) 837-8691 or mail to P.O. Box C-171 Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students must then present this documentation to the instructor as soon as possible so that accommodations may be arranged.

Honoring Academic Integrity

Any instance of academic misconduct such as (1) turning in an identical written assignment for another course without approval, (2) copying from any source without proper citation, (3) crossing the boundary of what is allowed in a group project, (4) lying in connection with your academic work, (5) cheating, (6) plagiarism, (7) misrepresenting facts and/or collusion are contrary to the purpose of any educational institution and will be dealt with **most severely** to the extent of the university's disciplinary policy and/or through legal action if indicated. An instructor who determines that a student has been dishonest academically can at a minimum issue no credit for the assignment/exam, and/or pursue more severe penalties, including but not limited to failing the course. Before the penalty is imposed, the student has the right to appeal to the division chairperson or Assistant Provost for the Academic Affairs. Further information about *Academic Honesty* can be read in the [SRSU Student Handbook](#) and procedures for dealing with these acts are outlined in the [Scholastic Dishonesty Policy](#).

Evaluation:

Exams: Three (3) exams will be given during the course of this term. These exams will be partly done in class and at home. These exams may require computer use and the SPSS statistical software program. All exams will be due at the start of the next class session. **No late exams will be accepted** unless for excused absences (see attendance). All exams will be worth the total of 40% of the final grade. If you are absent the day the exams are given, it will be *your responsibility* to retrieve these exams from a classmate or myself.

Quizzes: Ten (10) quizzes will be given during the course of this term on Blackboard or in class. The dates of the quizzes are planned for the dates listed below in the class schedule. All quizzes will be worth 45% of the final grade. Please note that there will be no make-up quizzes unless for excused absences (see attendance).

Late Quizzes/Exams: You are expected to meet quiz/exam deadlines. Quizzes submitted after their due dates will be deducted by 50% of the overall grade for unexcused absences. For excused absences (university-authorized, legal or medical issues), speak with me **before the absence** so arrangements can be made.

Class Participation and Attendance

This is a course that requires in class, hands on experience and discussion. **Class attendance IS REQUIRED and participation is important.** Class participation and attendance will be worth **15%** of the final grade. Attendance accounts for a significant amount of your final grade because *absences* affect your ability to complete the considerable number of assignments for this class.

Participation - You are expected to be on time for each class session and you should be actively involved. *Active involvement includes prompt and regular attendance, active listening, writing, participating via an online poll or quiz, engaging in discussions, volunteering or doodling.* Early departure or late arrival for class (more than 15 minutes) on a weekly basis will lower your participation grade. If you repeatedly leave early or are late to class (**more than twice**), this will be counted as one absence and may result in a failing grade for the course. Besides attendance, all other forms of participation judged subjectively by me that showcases active involvement will increase your participation grade.

Attendance - Class attendance is governed by the SRSU policy stated in the schedule of classes. If you are unable to attend a class session, please discuss the reason with me and arrange with another student to obtain any notes, handouts or

assignments you may have missed. Excused absences entail established religious observance, or providing emergency, university-authorized, legal or medical documentation. Excessive unexcused absences (**more than 6 missed class sessions**) will result in a failing grade for the course. If you recognize that you will need extra assistance in reviewing statistics (more than I can provide), it is recommended that you make an appointment with the tutoring center.

Cell phone and computer use: During the entire class period, you should be fully engaged in the class's activity. Laptop computers or tablets are welcomed ONLY on class meetings on TUESDAYS for the academic purposes of note taking or following along with the instructor's lesson. Off-topic activity (e.g., reading the newspaper, cell phone use, checking email, Facebook) not directly related to the class is considered extremely disrespectful, and will be noted and can result in being marked "absent" for the day.

Grading

Students are expected to complete assignments prior to class sessions and to engage in thoughtful discussions in light of these assignments. In addition to completing the SPSS assignments on time, students will be required to work frequently on their research paper for the final grade and presentation.

Attendance & Participation:	200 points	20%
Exams (3[100])	300 points	30%
Quizzes (10[50])	500 points	50%
TOTAL:	1000 points	100%

Course Outline

(This schedule and the topics listed above are subject to modification by the instructor.)

Unit 1 – Statistical Definitions and Frequencies

Day	Content	Materials
Aug. 28th & 30th (EARTH)	Introductions... Using Blackboard for the course Reading journal articles <i>Aug. 30th – Last day for late registration and schedule changes</i>	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 1 – Statistics: Who needs them?	
Sept. 4th & 6th (MARS)	What are Statistics? Populations? Samples?	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 2 – Types of Data; <i>Quiz 1 on Chapter 1</i>	
Sept. 11th & 13th (MERCURY)	Types of Data & Frequencies <i>(Sept 12th – Last day to drop classes without creating an academic record)</i>	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 3 – Creating & Interpreting Graphics; <i>Quiz 2 on Chapter 2</i>	
Sept. 18th & 20th (VENUS)	A Picture is worth a thousand words! SPSS Introduction	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Study for Exam 1; <i>Quiz 3 on Chapter 3</i>	
Sept. 25th & 27th (URANUS)	Review Chapters 1, 2 & 3	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Exam 1; Read Chapter 4 – Central Tendency	Due October 1st

Assignments:

These are the assignments that will be graded for this unit: Exam 1 and Quizzes 1, 2 and 3.

UNIT II: Measures of Dispersion

Day	Content	Materials
October 2 nd & 4 th (CALLISTO)	Chapter 4: Measures of Central Tendency Review Exam 1	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 5 – Variability; <i>Quiz 4 on Chapter 4</i>	
October 9 th & 11 th (NEPTUNE)	Chapter 5: The “Law of Life”	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 6 – Normal Distributions; <i>Quiz 5 on Chapter 5</i>	
October 16 th & 18 th (CERES)	Chapter 6: Where am I? SPSS Continuation	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Study for Exam 2; <i>Quiz 6 on Chapter 6</i>	
Oct. 23 rd & 25 th (JUPITER)	Review Chapters 4, 5 & 6	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Study for Exam 2; Read Chapter 7 - Probability	Due October 29th

Assignments

These are the assignments that will be graded for this unit: Exam 2 and Quizzes 4, 5 & 6.

UNIT III: Inferential Statistics

Day	Content	Materials
Oct. 30 th & Nov. 1 st (HALLOWEEN)	Chapter 7: Basic Probability Theory	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 8 – Central Limit Theorem; <i>Quiz 7 on Chapter 7</i>	
Nov. 6 th & 8 th (SUN)	Chapter 8: The Central Limit Theory and Hypothesis Testing	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	<i>Quiz 8 on Chapter 8 (Part 1)</i>	
Nov. 13 th & 15 th (MOON)	Chapter 8: The Central Limit Theory and Hypothesis Testing (Nov. 12 th : Last day for instructor initiated drop for excessive absences; Nov. 16 th : Last day to drop a course with a ‘W’ by 4pm)	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	<i>Quiz 9 on Chapter 8 (Part 2)</i>	
Nov. 20 th (THANKS)	Practice and Make-up Day	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Read Chapter 9 – The z-test	
Nov. 27 th & 29 th (SATURN)	Chapter 9 – The z-test	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	<i>Quiz 10 on Chapter 9</i>	
Dec. 4 th (HOLIDAY)	Review for Exam 3	Blackboard; Statistics Textbook
Homework	Study for Exam 3	
Dec. 10 th	Exam 3: 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.	
Congratulations on finishing the course!		

Assignments: These are the assignments that will be graded for this unit: Exam 3 and Quizzes 7, 8, 9 & 10.