

Brescia University College
Department of Sociology
Sociology 2205a (formerly Soc205b) Sec530
Statistics for Sociology
Fall Semester, 2011

Instructor: Prof. Patricia Pakvis
Office: St. James 301a
Telephone: (519) 432-8353
E-mail: pakvis@uwo.ca
Website: <http://publish.uwo.ca/~pakvis/>
Dates: September – December 2011
Day/Time: Monday 12:30 – 2:30 pm, Wednesday 1:30 – 2:30 pm
Location: St. James 135
Office Hours: TBA
Computer Lab: TBA

TA: TBA

A tutor is available for this course if needed. The cost for tutoring is your responsibility. For tutoring, please contact: **Catherine Gelin** cpgelina@uwo.ca

PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES:

	Old course #	New course #
Prerequisite	At least 60% in Soc020 or 021e	Soc1020 or 1021e
Antirequisite	Soc231	SW2205

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

DROP DATE: Oct. 15 2011

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course students will be able to

- calculate and interpret basic univariate and bivariate statistics
- use a statistical computer software package (SPSS)
- understand why, when, and how to use particular techniques to analyze data
- understand the application of statistics in sociological research
- read and make sense of statistics used in research reports

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

During the semester you will be introduced to basic univariate and bivariate statistical techniques and their applications in sociological research. In addition, you will learn to use a statistical computer software package (SPSS) in order to analyze and interpret statistical data. Statistical techniques will include percentages, proportions, graphing, the calculation of basic descriptive statistics such as the mean and standard deviation, measures of association, and basic inferential statistics for hypothesis testing. Ungraded homework will be assigned, and you will also have the opportunity to work together in small groups during class to practice problem solving. You will be expected to develop basic competencies in identifying and using appropriate statistical techniques to summarize and evaluate sociological information. The importance of understanding why, when, and how to use particular analytic techniques will be stressed as opposed to the memorization of formulae. Some basic mathematics skills will be required but the emphasis will be on the application and interpretation of statistics.

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Healey and Prus. 2010. *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research* (1st Can. Ed.). Toronto: Nelson. ISBN 9780176442538 (Required)

Study Guide for Healey's *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research* (any edition). (Recommended)

Note: Students will also need a pocket calculator which can perform basic statistical functions.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Midterm #1 (1 hours, Oct. 5)	20%
Midterm #2 (2 hours, Nov. 7)	30%
SPSS Exercise (due Dec. 7)	15%
Final Exam (December Exam Period TBA)	35%

MIDTERMS #1 AND 2 AND FINAL EXAM:

Midterms 1 and 2 are worth 20 and 30% respectively and will be held at the beginning of class on Oct. 5 and Nov. 7. They will be a combination of multiple choice questions and problems. You are allowed to use a calculator and may bring and use one 8.5 x 11 "cheat sheet" for each midterm. Cell phones, laptops or other electronic devices are not permitted. Should you miss a midterm for legitimate medical (i.e. illness) or non-medical (i.e. funeral) reasons, appropriate documentation must be submitted to the Academic Dean's office in order to receive accommodation for the missed exam. Unexcused absence from the midterm will receive a grade of "0." Religious accommodation is also possible.

There are no makeup midterms. If a midterm is missed, an assignment worth 10% of the final mark will be given and the weights of the other exams will be adjusted accordingly.

The final exam, worth 35%, will be held during the December examination period. It will be approximately 2 ½ hours long. Like the midterms, it will be a combination of multiple choice questions and problems and will also include one or two SPSS analytical questions. You are allowed to use a calculator and an 8.5 x 11 “cheat sheet.” See above section for information on the use of electronic devices and policy on accommodation.

ADDITIONAL NOTE REGARDING ACCOMMODATION:

For further information on medical accommodation, please see the [Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness \(https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm\)](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm) and for more detail on religious accommodation, please see <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/> and <http://www.uwo.ca/equity/docs/mfcalendar.htm>. Please be advised that students **must** give proper written notice for such an accommodation in accordance with the directives in the UWO Academic Calendar.

SPSS ASSIGNMENT:

An SPSS assignment, worth 15%, consists of five parts which can be completed as the course progresses. A resource for this assignment is the SPSS explanations and exercises at the end of each chapter in the Healey text. The assignment is due in class on December 7. Detailed instructions are available for download on the course webpage at <http://publish.uwo.ca/~pakvis/>. This assignment is an individual assignment and must be your own work. Copied assignments will receive a mark of “0”. Late assignments will be penalized at 2%/day. Late assignments should be placed in an envelope addressed to me and brought to the Brescia Registrar's office to be signed in and dated-stamped.

Note: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

INFORMATION ABOUT LECTURE TOPICS, READINGS AND DATES:

A detailed schedule of topics, readings and dates as well as the lecture outlines can be found at <http://publish.uwo.ca/~pakvis/>. Much of the material covered in this course will be new to you and may be difficult to understand so it is important to read the appropriate chapter before the start of class and then to review the readings again and try the suggested homework questions as soon as possible after class. You may also want to print out the lecture outline before class to aid you in your note-taking. Please check the webpage regularly for other pertinent information.

Note that: Laptop use will be permitted in the classroom during lectures; however students found to be using laptops for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct. Cell phones and PDA's may not be used during class and should be silenced or turned off at the beginning of class.

LECTURE DATES, TOPICS AND READINGS

(see <http://publish.uwo.ca/~pakvis/> for full outline)

Sept. 12/14	Lecture Outline:	Basic Concepts, Read Healey Ch. 1 SPSS Introduction, Healey Appendix F and G
Sept. 19/21	Lecture Outline:	Basic Math, Healey Appendix (Prologue in 8e) Basic Descriptive Statistics, Healey Ch. 2
Sept. 26/28	Lecture Outline:	Descriptive Statistics: Central Tendency and Dispersion, Healey Ch. 3 & 4 (Omit Formula 4.4, s for Aggregate Data)
Oct. 3	Lecture Outline:	The Normal Curve and z-scores Healey Ch. 5
Oct. 5		<u>Midterm 1 (1 hour)</u>
Oct. 10		Thanksgiving (no class)
Oct. 12	Lecture Outline:	The Sampling Distribution Healey Ch. 6
Oct. 17/19	Lecture Outline:	Constructing Confidence Intervals Healey Ch. 7 One Sample Hypothesis Tests Healey Ch. 8
Oct. 24/26	Lecture Outline:	Two Sample Hypothesis Tests Healey Ch. 9
Oct.31/Nov.2	Lecture Outline:	Analysis of Variance Healey Ch. 10
Nov. 7		<u>Midterm 2 (2 hours)</u>
Nov. 9	Lecture Outline	SPSS (in computer lab)
Nov. 14/16	Lecture Outline:	Bivariate Association Healey Ch. 12 Chi Square Statistic Healey Ch. 11 (Omit Goodness of Fit Test Section 11.7)
Nov. 21/23	Lecture Outline:	Association for Nominal Level Variables Healey Ch. 13 Association for Ordinal Level Variables Healey Ch. 14 (Omit Spearman's Rho Section 14. 6)
Nov. 28/30	Lecture Outline	Association for Interval Level Variables Healey Ch. 15
Dec. 5		SPSS (computer lab)
Dec. 7		Review

A FINAL NOTE:

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

If supporting documentation is from a family physician, Hospital Urgent Care Centre or Emergency Department, or a walk-in clinic a UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required**. To download an SMC go to <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and follow the link under "Medical Documentation". Documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial visit. If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** considered adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2011/pg117.html>.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You

should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of

papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html.

The University of Western Ontario Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm>

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.