

Brescia University College, at  
The University of Western Ontario  
2012 Winter

**Sociology 2205B: Statistics for Sociology**  
Section 532

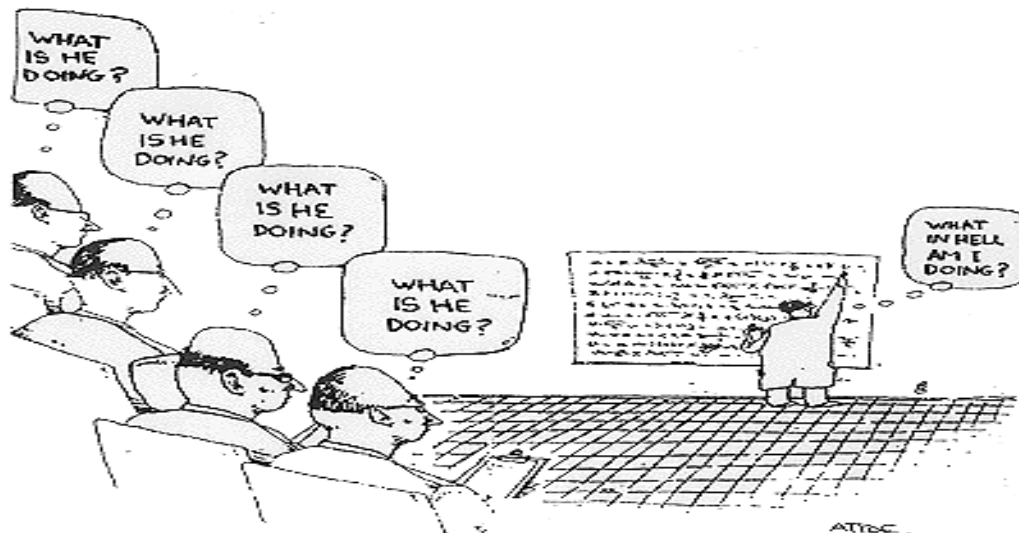
**Tuesdays 2:30 - 4:30 pm; Thursdays 2:30 - 3:30 pm; Room BR-302**

Instructor: Ching Jiangqin Du

Office /Phone: To be provided

E-mail: [jdu32@uwo.ca](mailto:jdu32@uwo.ca)

Office Hours: Every Tuesday and Thursday: 1:30-2:30pm; or by appointment



**Course Description**

Sociology 2205 is the introductory course on basic statistical techniques. It provides an introduction to the techniques of statistical analysis used by sociologists, including descriptive statistics, the normal curve, hypothesis testing and various measures of association. Students will learn to calculate statistics by hand and by using statistical software (SPSS). More importantly, students are expected to develop basic comprehension of appropriate statistical techniques introduced in this course. A pocket calculator which can perform basic statistical functions (e.g., a square root) is required for this course.

**Textbook**

Healey, Joseph F., and Steven G. Prus

2011 *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research, First Canadian Edition*. Toronto:  
Nelson Education.

Useful textbook resources can be found at: <http://www.healeystatistics.nelson.com/student/>.

## Course Evaluation

Midterm Exam #1	15%	Feb.09 (1hr.)	Ch.1-5
Midterm Exam #2	25%	Mar.06 (1.5 hrs.)	Ch.6-11
SPSS Assignment	10%	Mar. 29	Ch.1-15
Final Exam	50%	TBA (3 hrs.)	Ch.1-15

\*There will be no provision for additional work for the purpose of improving grades in this course.

### Exams: Midterm Exam #1, #2, and Final Exam

- The exams will involve a series of multiple-choice questions and a series of problems that students will be asked to solve and interpret. Your pocket calculator is indispensable for the exams.
- You are allowed to bring a sheet of 8.5x11" "cheat sheet" (with anything you want on your crib sheet) for the two midterm exams. You must turn in your cheat sheet with your exam at the end of the exam.
- NO "cheat sheet" for the final exam.
- The formulas from each chapter and the related tables (e.g., Z-Table) will be provided by the instructor during the exams.
- Final exam will be cumulative, covering everything from the beginning of the term.
- It is possible to get a final grade ending in "9," e.g., 69%. Grades ending in "9" will not be "bumped up," e.g., a final grade of 69% will not be changed to 70%.

### Exam Absence

- Normally, absences from examinations will be excused only on the basis of serious illness documented by a note from a physician. In such cases, students are to contact the instructor **before the exam is held**. Students will receive a score of ZERO for any unexcused absence from an examination.
- For further information on accommodation, please see the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness at <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and the Calendar of Religious Accommodation at <http://www.uwo.ca/equity/docs/mfcalendar.htm>.
- Missed exams on proper grounds (i.e., accommodation is approved by an Academic Advisor) will be scheduled for makeup exam. Failure to write a scheduled makeup exam will result in a zero.
- The policies governing requests for academic accommodation applicable to this course are outlined in the Academic Policies section included at the end of the course outline.

### SPSS Assignment

- The computer assignment using SPSS is due in class on March 29.
- A separate handout providing the details (e.g., what is required in the assignment) will be provided. The assignment can be completed as the course progresses.
- There is no need to purchase any computer software.
- The assignment should be individual work, reflecting YOUR own thinking. Copied assignments will receive a mark of zero.
- Late assignments will be deducted at the rate of 5%/day (including weekends and holidays). Also, late assignments should be placed in an envelope addressed to your instructor and brought to the Brescia Registrar's office to be signed in and dated-stamped.
- Assignments not received within 5 days of the due date will not be accepted without appropriate documentation.

<b>Lecture Schedules and Readings*</b>			
<b>Week #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Part I: Introduction</b>			
#1	01/10	Introduction to Statistics	Healey & Prus, ch.1
	01/12	Wallace's Wheel of Science and Statistics	
<b>Part II: Descriptive Statistics</b>			
#2	01/17	Basic Math Measures of Central Tendency	Healey & Prus, Appendix H, ch.2, ch.3
	01/19	Measures of Dispersion	Healey & Prus, ch.4
#3	01/24	Introduction to SPSS & Data Sets	Appendices F & G
	01/26	SPSS Lab Demo I	Ch.1-4 (SPSS for Windows)
#4	01/31	The Normal Curve: Z-scores	Healey & Prus, ch.5
<b>Part III: Inferential Statistics</b>			
	02/02	Sampling and Sampling Distributions	Healey & Prus, ch.6
#5	02/07	Estimation Procedures	Healey & Prus, ch.7
	02/09	Midterm #1 (1-hour)	Ch.1-Ch.5
#6	02/14	Hypothesis Testing: One-sample case	Healey & Prus, ch.8
	02/16	Hypothesis Testing: Two-sample case	Healey & Prus, ch.9
#7	02/21 & 02/23	Reading week, NO classes	No New Readings
#8	02/28 & 03/01	Hypothesis Testing: Chi Square	Healey & Prus, ch.11
#9	03/06	Midterm #2 (1.5-hours)	Ch.6-Ch.11
	03/08	SPSS Lab Demo II	Ch.6-11 (SPSS for Windows)
<b>Part IV: Bivariate Measures of Association (MOA)</b>			
#10	03/13 & 03/15	Introduction to Bivariate Association	Healey & Prus, ch.12
#11	03/ 20 & 03/22	MOA: Nominal Data	Healey & Prus, ch.13
	03/29	Assignment Due	
#12	03/27 & 03/29	MOA: Ordinal Data	Healey & Prus, ch.14
#13	04/03 & 04/05	MOA: Interval-Ratio Data	Healey & Prus, ch.15
#14	04/10	Course Review	Ch.1-15.
	Exam Period	Final Exam: TBA	Healey & Prus, ch.1-15.

\*The above indicated schedule/readings may be modified slightly throughout the term.

### **Words of Advice**

Knowledge of basic statistics is essential for understanding social phenomena around us and is imperative for the reading of technical journals in your field of study.

No prior statistical knowledge or advanced math skills are required for this class.

**Bear in mind that statistics is not a math course.**

Come to class. It makes a difference.

I will work through examples and highlight the logic behind the number crunching. Once you are sure why you are doing what you are doing and where you are heading, you will be in a good position to develop your skills in statistics.

### **Study Tips:**

Take good lecture notes

Keep Up: subsequent materials are built on previous ones. Do solid reviews periodically.

Ask questions

Don't be afraid to ask for help

Be prepared to make mistakes and to take risks

Be patient with yourself

Practice, practice, and practice: See Statistics as a new language. Repetition helps.

Keep your sense of humor and have fun!

### **Course Antirequisites and Prerequisites**

Antirequisites: All other university-level statistics courses at the 2000-level or above including the former Sociology 231, Social Work 2205, Psychology 2810, 2820E, and the former Health Sciences 2800 or the former Health Sciences 201.

Prerequisites: At least 60% in Sociology 1020 or 1021E.

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. An SMC can be downloaded at <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>. 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. If documentation is from Student Health Services, the student should sign a release of information form. 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/2008/print\\_pg140.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2008/print_pg140.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](http://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 and 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 McCann 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 (<http://www.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 requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will 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.

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 is at <http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/current/registrar/>, Academic Support and Advising is at <http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/current/advising/> and the McCann Student Services Centre is <http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/current/services/>. The University of Western Ontario Registrar's website is <http://www4.registrar.uwo.ca>.

[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.]