

Dixie State University  
Social Statistics (SOC 3112-01)  
Spring 2015  
Tuesday & Thursday 1:00-3:30PM  
Lecture (1:00-2:15PM, HCC 470) & Lab (2:30-3:30PM, HCC 475)

---

Instructor: Stephen J. Kim, Ph.D.  
Office: McDonald 213  
E-mail: [skim@dixie.edu](mailto:skim@dixie.edu)  
Phone: (435) 879-4622  
Office Hours: MWF 2-3PM, TR 3:30-4:30 (or by appointment)

**Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to statistical concepts and methods used by social scientists to analyze quantitative data.

**Course Objectives:**

Students will learn, understand and apply social statistics to real world research data. Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Demonstrate an ability to explain the basic concepts of social statistics (i.e., sample and population)
- Demonstrate an ability to summarize numeric data by computing descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation and/or by creating tables and graphs
- Demonstrate an ability to explain the differences among various statistical techniques and choose an appropriate technique for a given set of variables and research questions
- Demonstrate an ability to formulate and test hypotheses in research models
- Demonstrate an ability to understand the principles of sampling and probability
- Demonstrate an ability to compute various inferential statistics (i.e., t-test, chi-square test, ANOVA, multiple regression) and apply statistical findings to population
- Demonstrate basic competence in using statistical software (SPSS)

**Prerequisites:** SOC 1010 (or SOC 1010A) **AND** MATH 1040 (or MATH 1040A)

**Fees:** None

**General Education (G.E.) Status of This Course:** No

**Recommended Texts:**

Chava Frankfort-Nachmias & Anna Leon-Guerrero, *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society* (7<sup>th</sup> Edition), ISBN13: 9781483333540

Gregory J. Privitera, *Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*, ISBN13: 9781452286907

Joseph F. Healey, *Exploring Social Issues: Using SPSS for Windows*, ISBN13: 9781412964210

**Evaluation:**

Students will have four in-class closed-book exams in this course. In each exam, using SPSS, students are expected to analyze the data to examine the relationship between/among variables and report the statistical findings. Exams are worth 60% of your final grade.

Approximately 20 lab (in-class or take-home) assignments will be given throughout the semester. Lab assignments will involve analyzing data and reporting your results in a concise and organized manner. Assignments are worth 20% of your final grade. Even though attendance is not directly counted toward your final course grade, it is very important because a lab assignment will be given every class.

Finally, a 5-page double-spaced term-paper is required. Your research hypothesis (or hypotheses), review of literature (3-5 articles on your specific topic), and statistical results/analyses should be clearly stated in your term-paper, which will count for 20% of your final grade.

<b>Exam #1</b> – Jan. 27	15% (15 points)
<b>Exam #2</b> – Feb. 24	15% (15 points)
<b>Exam #3</b> – Mar. 31	15% (15 points)
<b>Exam #4</b> – May 5	15% (15 points)
<b>Lab (or Take-Home) Assignments</b> (Approximately 20 assignments)	20% (20 Points)
<b>Term-Paper</b> (5 pages with SPSS statistical output)	20% (20 Points)

Final course grade is determined based on the following grading scales: A (100-94 percent of all possible points), A- (93-90), B+ (89-87), B (86-84), B- (83-80), C+ (79-77), C (76-74), C- (73-70), D+ (69-67), D (66-64), D- (63-60), and F (59-0).

**Late/Missed Exams/Assignments:**

All exams, quizzes, and assignments must be completed or submitted on the scheduled date/time. **NO MAKE-UP exams, quizzes, or assignments.** **Late assignments** will **NOT** be accepted and a **ZERO** grade will be assigned.

**Attendance Policy:**

Even though attendance is not mandatory for this course, it is very important because a lab assignment will be given every class.

**Classroom Etiquette:**

- **Be respectful and considerate** to your classmates and to your instructor
- Ask appropriate questions and **avoid private conversations** that distract other students and the instructor.

- If you have to **take phone calls, send text messages, play on the Internet, use social media** (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), **read for another class, or take a nap, you MUST LEAVE the classroom.**
- If you miss class, it is **your responsibility to find out what you missed.**
- **Come to class on time and do not leave early.** Do not disrupt the flow of a lecture or discussion.
- Keep your **cell phone on silent mode**

### **Catalogue Description:**

The study of Sociology at DSU provides a strong intellectual background in sociological thought, methodology, and contributions. Special emphasis is placed on the sociological perspective, social theory, social research methods, and data analysis. Students develop abilities to explain the important influence of culture, social structure, and social processes on human behavior; to recognize continuing sources of social inequality; and to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity.

### **Degree/Department Outcomes:**

This course contributes to the student's acquisition of the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLO) for the sociology integrated studies or minor degree:

- Introduces the student to degree outcome #2 (PLO #2): **Sociological Research** – Students will demonstrate an ability to collect and compare appropriate forms of sociological evidence.
- Introduces the student to degree outcome #4 (PLO #4): **Critical Thinking/Analysis** – Students will demonstrate an ability to analyze and differentiate between causal and correlative data.

### **General Education (GE) Outcomes:**

This course contributes to the student's acquisition of the following General Education outcomes:

- Critical Thinking (GE Outcome #2)
- Information Literacy Skills (GE Outcome #4)
- Quantitative Reasoning (GE Outcome #5)

### **Student Responsibility:**

- The student is responsible for all announcements and materials presented in class. As a college student, you are expected to schedule **at least two hours of study time outside of class for each hour the class meets** (a minimum of 6 hours per week).
- Important class and college information will be sent to your Dmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Dmail email account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to [www.dixie.edu](http://www.dixie.edu) and select "Dmail" for

complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail email, so please check it often.

### **Disability Support Services:**

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring reasonable academic adjustment, accommodations, or auxiliary aids to be successful in this class will need to contact the DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER Coordinator for eligibility determination. Proper documentation of impairment is required in order to receive services or accommodations. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule appointment to discuss the process. DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

### **Links to Other DSU Student Services:**

For detailed information, hold CTRL and click the following links.

- Library: <http://library.dixie.edu/>
- Testing Center: <http://dixie.edu/testing/>
- Writing Center & OWL: <http://dixiewritingcenter.com/>
- Tutoring Center: <http://dixie.edu/tutoring/>
- Health & Wellness Center: <http://dixie.edu/wellness/>
- Women's Resource: <http://dixie.edu/wrc/>
- IT Student Help Desk: <http://dixie.edu/helpdesk/>

### **Academic Honesty:**

Academic dishonesty in any form, including, but not limited to, cheating on exams, plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, multiple submissions (submitting the same or substantially the same work for credit in two or more courses), and facilitating academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at Dixie State University. Students MUST sign *Academic Honor and Integrity Policy* form prepared by the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Dixie State University.

### **Final Note:**

I reserve **the right to (a) adjust individual grades** based on my evaluation of your participation and enthusiasm in the course and (b) **make changes** to the syllabus during the course if I feel it will benefit the class.

## Class Schedule

Week	Topics
Week #1 (1/12-1/16)	Building SPSS Database – Creating and Labeling New Variables, Importing/Exporting Data in Different Formats
Week #2 (1/19-1/23) No class, Monday, Jan. 19	Data Manipulation – Recoding Variables, Treating Missing Values, Creating Measures/Indices
Week #3 (1/26-1/30) <b>Exam #1, Tuesday, Jan. 27</b>	Descriptive Statistics
Week #4 (2/2-2/6)	Chi-Square Test
Week #5 (2/9-2/13)	Chi-Square Test
Week #6 (2/16-2/20) No class, Monday, Feb. 16	T-Test
Week #7 (2/23-2/27) <b>Exam #2, Tuesday, Feb. 24</b>	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)
Week #8 (3/2-3/6)	Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)
Week #9 (3/9-3/13) No class, Spring Break	Spring Break – No Class
Week #10 (3/16-3/20)	Correlation
Week #11 (3/23-3/27)	Bivariate Regression
Week #12 (3/30-4/3) <b>Exam #3, Tuesday, Mar. 31</b>	Data Reduction - Factor Analysis
Week #13 (4/6-4/10)	Multiple Regression
Week #14 (4/13-4/17)	Multiple Regression
Week #15 (4/20-4/24)	Logistic Regression
Week #16 (4/27-4/29) Last day of class, Tuesday, Apr. 28	Structural Equation Modeling (Lecture Only)
<b>Final Exam (Exam #4), Tuesday, May 5</b> Reading Day: 4/30 Final Exams: 5/1, 5/4-5/7	

### Important Dates to Remember

Jan 12	Classwork Starts
Jan 15	Last Day for Waitlist
Jan 16	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 22	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 22	Residency Application Deadline
Jan 27	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Feb 2	Spring 2015 Associate's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Feb 2	Pell Grant Census
Feb 2	Last Day for Refund
Feb 2	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Feb 4	Courses dropped for non-payment
Feb 6	Last Day to Add/Audit
Feb 16	President's Day
Mar 2	Summer 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Mar 2	Mid-Term Grades Due
Mar 6	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Mar 9-13	Spring Break
Mar 23	Fall Class schedule available online
Mar 23	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 24	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 25	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 26	Summer Registration open to all students
Apr 1	Fall 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Apr 10	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 13	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 14	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 15	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 16	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 29	Classwork Ends
Apr 30	Reading Day
May 1	Final Exams
May 1	Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2015
May 4-7	Final Exams
May 8	Commencement