

**Sociology 364.A01: Data Analysis in Sociology
Spring 2017**

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Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the basic quantitative methods of social science research, i.e. basic descriptive and inferential statistics. The topics covered include concepts and logic of the research process, frequency distributions, measures of central tendency & dispersion, the tabular and graphic presentation of data, cross-tabulation, correlation, analysis of variance and regression, probability distributions, hypothesis testing and estimation techniques.

Goals of the Course: This course provides an introduction to the conceptual and practical aspects of quantitative research methods. One important goal of the course is to provide participants with theoretical-conceptual knowledge, practical skills, and hands-on experience that will allow them to analyze quantitative social data, and also to critically evaluate others' use and presentation of quantitative data analyses, in scholarly publications and in other non-academic media.

Required text: Salkind, Neil J. 2017. *Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics, Using Microsoft Excel® 2016*. 4th edition. Sage.

Online student supplementary materials: <https://edge.sagepub.com/node/32406/student-resources>

- Among other things, the online materials for students include
 - Flashcards
 - Study questions
 - Practice quizzes

Course Requirements:

Quizzes (45% of final grade):

- There are at 9 multiple-choice, timed quiz opportunities. Each quiz is 5 points. Unless otherwise announced, quizzes are made available each Friday afternoon, and remain open until the end of the quarter (11:59 pm, Friday, June 9)

Homework problem sets (45% of final grade):

- There are 9 homework problem sets. Unless otherwise announced, homework problem sets are made available each Monday afternoon, and due by 11:59 pm on Sunday of the week in which they are assigned.

Discussion Boards (10% of final grade)

- There are 10 discussion board (DB) assignments. Unless otherwise announced, DB assignments are made available each Monday afternoon, and due by 11:59 pm on Sunday of the week in which they are assigned. Instructions will be posted separately for each assignment.

Summary:

Quizzes: 9 Quizzes	= 45 %
Homework: 9 Homework problem sets	= 45 %
<u>Discussion Board Assignments: 10 DB assignments</u>	<u>= 10 %</u>
Total	= 100 %

• Grading and Grade Point Distribution:

- There are 100 points possible in this class. The grade distribution is roughly as follows:
 - 90-100 points = A range (e.g. 91 = A-, etc.)
 - 80-89 points = B range
 - 70-79 points = C range
 - 60-69 points = D range
 - < 60 points = Failing grade

Policies regarding academic integrity: Students will be held to Central Washington University's standards of scholarly integrity (see CWU Student Code). In particular, all written work submitted in this class (discussion boards, exams, quizzes) must be done *independently*. Sources must be indicated for all ideas, language or content drawn from external sources of any kind (textbook, published articles or books, movies/videos, other classes, any & all internet sources). **All external sources must be listed to avoid plagiarism, which is a violation of the CWU Student Code.** If you are unsure about whether / how to correctly cite external sources, do not hesitate to seek advice from the CWU writing center, or me, by email or in person during office hours or by appointment. When in doubt, include the citation. Regarding format, any standard format (such as Chicago Manual of Style, or *American Journal of Sociology* format) is fine. These can be found online. **Work submitted without appropriately identified sources will be evaluated as an attempt to plagiarize, and will result in serious sanctions (zero grade on assignment or failing grade in the course; involvement of CWU Office of Student Affairs).**

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office for Disability Services (see their website: <http://www.cwu.edu/~dss/cms/>) to coordinate documentation and accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to also contact me in a timely manner regarding accommodations.

Schedule of Readings, Assignments & Quizzes

Week 1: March 29 – April 3

- Canvas Tutorial
- Review Syllabus
- Readings: Chapter 1
 - PC users can skip the sections intended for Mac users
- DB 1: introductions

Week 2: April 4 – 10

- Chapter 2
- DB 2
- Homework problems 1
- *Quiz 1*

Week 3: April 11 – 17

- Chapters 3 & 4
- DB 3
- Homework problems 2
- *Quiz 2*

Week 4: April 18 – 24

- Chapter 5
- DB 4
- Homework problems 3
- *Quiz 3*

Week 5: April 25 – May 1

- Chapter 6
- DB 5
- Homework problems 4
- *Quiz 4*

Week 6: May 2 – 8

- Chapter 7
- DB 6
- Homework problems 5
- *Quiz 5*

Week 7: May 9 – 15

- Chapter 8
- DB 7
- Homework problems 6
- *Quiz 6*

Week 8: May 16 – 22

- Chapters 9 & 10
- DB 8
- Homework problems 7
- *Quiz 7*

Week 9: May 23 – 29

- Chapter 11 & 12
- DB 9
- Homework problems 8
- *Quiz 8*

Week 10: May 30 – June 5

- Chapter 13 & 15
- DB 10
- Homework problems 9
- *Quiz 9*

Week 11: June 6 – 9: Finals week *Get caught up on Quizzes if necessary*