

This is a sample syllabus only. The instructor may make changes to the syllabus in future courses.

Social Statistics
Sociology 410/410L

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Office: HHB 460J
Hours: _____
and by appointment

Course Description:

410: Elementary techniques and analysis; preparation and use of graphs and tables; measures of central tendency and dispersion; probability and sampling; tests of significance and measurements of association. Quantitative Literacy is a significant component of this course (QEP).

410L: Laboratory component of SOC 410. Required for all sociology majors. Cross listed as SW 321L. Quantitative Literacy is a significant component of this course (QEP).

Course Objective:

This course is an undergraduate-level introduction to social statistics. When you complete this course you should be able to use various statistical tools, including graphs and tables, to describe a single variable and to summarize the distribution of variables using measures of central tendency and deviation. In addition, you should be familiar with t-tests, chi-square, and correlations to describe the relationship between a multiple variables. In this course we will learn to think critically about statistics, not simply calculate formulas (we have computers for that). This class will focus on explaining the theoretical meaning behind a variety of common social statistics and on providing practical experience in evaluating statistical information.

Prerequisites: a basic understanding of algebra
Required of all sociology majors
Corequisites 410 and 410L

Course Texts:

Frankfort-Nachmias, Chava, Anna Leon-Guerrero. 2015. *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society* 7th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Forge Press.

Calculator: You will need a calculator for the assignments and the exams. The calculator must be able to compute square roots and powers and have some statistical functions (mean, standard deviation) built in. You are responsible for learning how to use the statistical functions on you calculator.

Course Requirements:

Attendance: Attendance is highly recommended and an attendance sheet will be passed around daily. The course is not simply lecture format, but an atmosphere in which all students get a chance to learn and participate in class discussions. Therefore, for class sessions to go well it is important for everyone to come to class prepared to participate actively. While attendance is not graded, it will be used to gauge student commitment. If you are absent from class, for any reason, it is your responsibility to let me know. You should also obtain class notes from another student.

Weekly Assignments: Weekly assignments from your textbook will be posted on the class Canvas webpage (10 pts each). Only the top 10 assignments will be scored towards your final grade for a total of 100 pts. The due dates are clearly stated on the class schedule and due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will not be scored, unless approved by the instructor.

In-Class LAB Assignments: In-class lab assignments from your textbook will be posted on the class Canvas webpage (10pts each). Only the top 10 assignments will be scored towards your final grade for a total of 100pts. You should be able to complete the entire exercise during the class period. In-class assignments will be completed in groups, and turned in as group assignments. If you miss an in-class assignment, and you have not approved your absence with the instructor, you will receive a zero on the assignment.

Section Exams: There will be three (3) exams during the semester (100 pts. each). Each exam will cover 4 to 5 chapters. Each exam consists of multiple-choice, fill in the blank, calculation questions, and a take-home SPSS section. The purpose of the section exam is to test your conceptual and computational knowledge about the section material covered. Exams will be administered during class on days outlined in the schedule. You will have **75 minutes** to complete each exam. The exams will include material from class lectures and the course text.

Grading:

Letter Grade	Qualitative Interpretation	Percent Grade	Points Needed
A	Excellent	89.5% - 100%	448 - 500
B	Good	79.5% - 89.4%	397 - 447
C	Fair	69.5% - 79.4%	348 - 396
D	Passing	59.5% - 69.4%	298 - 347
F	Failure	0% - 59.4%	0 - 297

Communications:

All official correspondence will be sent **ONLY** to the @uab.edu address. All students are responsible for ensuring that the correct e-mail address is listed in Canvas by the beginning of Week 1. UAB E-mail is the only method I will use to electronically communicate with students. It is your responsibility to make sure a valid email UAB address is provided. Failure on your part to do so can result in you missing important information that could affect your grade.

Drop/Add:

According to UAB policy _____ is the last day to add/drop this course. The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of "W" is _____. Students registering late will be able to make up all class material.

Accommodation of Religious Beliefs:

Religious beliefs shall be reasonably accommodated with respect to all examinations and other academic requirements. Please notify the professor in advance if there is a conflict.

Reasonable Accommodations:

Any students who need reasonable accommodations are invited to share these concerns or requests with the professor. All accommodations must be approved by Disability Support Services (DSS), If you have a disability but have not contacted DSS, please call 934-4205 or visit DSS at 516 Hill University Center.

Academic Honest Policy:

UAB Faculty expects all members of its academic community to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Academic dishonesty and misconduct includes, but is not limited to, acts of abetting, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and misrepresentation. Candidates are expected to honor the UAB Academic Code of Conduct as detailed *UAB Student Catalog 2012-2013*. Please consult this resource for additional information regarding the specific procedures to be undertaken when a student violates the UAB Academic Code of Conduct.

<https://www.uab.edu/students/academics/honor-code>

Let me make it clear: if you cheat, you will **fail** the course and your name will be forwarded to the University Compliance Office.

Make-up Policy:

If you must miss a commentary, discussion, quiz or exam, you will need to schedule a time to make-up the assignment **before** your absence. Only in extreme cases will this policy be modified. **REMEMBER**, not all quizzes, discussions, and papers are used to calculate final grades, you may not need of a make-up.

Etiquette:

Respect fellow students and myself. Topics in this class can become sensitive and someone (including myself) may say something with which you disagree. Critical discussion is encouraged, but respect differences of theoretical perspective. All class discussions must be sociological in nature.

Reservation:

I reserve the right to make changes in this syllabus to better serve the class's needs. Any changes will be announced in class in advance.