
Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Compute and understand measures of central tendency and variability
2. Recognize and create graphs
3. Understand, apply, and compute correlations and linear regressions
4. Understand reliability and variability and their role in research
5. Understand and create null and research hypotheses
6. Understand and recognize normal curves
7. Compute and understand z-scores
8. Understand significance testing
9. Understand, apply, and compute z-tests, t-tests, and ANOVAs
10. Interpret outcomes of inferential statistical tests
11. Recognize and use SPSS output for each statistical test

Grading:

- Reading Checks (14) 10%
- Group Work (5) 15%
- Group Participation 10%
- Computer Assignments (4) 15%
- Exams (5) 50%

Course Structure:

This course will use a team-based approach where students will be assigned to small groups where they will complete in-class assignments and activities in addition to lectures. Students are expected to complete the readings prior to attending class, be involved in class discussion, and participate in group work.

Reading Checks:

To ensure that you are completing the readings, there will be online reading checks that will be based on the book. You will have 3 attempts to take each quiz and each attempt will be limited to 15 minutes. Your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped. These dropped grades will include quizzes you miss for any reason, including technical difficulties. These quizzes should be completed on real computers and not on mobile devices. **These quizzes should be taken individually without help from others.** Gathering around a computer with friends to take the quiz, taking screen shots or writing down the correct answers and sharing them with others does not help your learning and is

**My office is located in a building with no elevator access. If you require such access in order to meet with me, you will need to schedule appointments with me ahead of time so we can arrange an alternative meeting location.**
collusion (a form of academic dishonesty - see below). All quizzes for a particular unit will be available after the previous exam until 1 hour before the class period during which the chapter covered by the quiz is lectured. See the schedule below for the corresponding due dates.

**Homework/Group Participation:**

A significant amount of each class will involve working in teams to answer questions and solve problems on the ideas we are covering. At the beginning of the semester you will be sorted into permanent teams. These teams will be used throughout the entire semester. I do not rearrange groups once they have been created, you must figure out how best to work within your group. For each unit, groups will be assigned problems for each chapter to be completed in class during appointed times. Each team will work together on these problems and will turn in one assignment that will be graded. All members of the team will receive the same grade based on the quality of the work. In order to complete assignments, you will need to bring a calculator to class every day. Additionally, at the end of the semester, each of you will be graded by your team mates on how well you are working in the team environment, how helpful you are and if you are actively engaging in class activities. These ratings will account for 10% of your grade. Attendance is an important part course success; missed classes will be reflected in your group participation grade.

**Computer Assignments:**

There will be four computer assignments assigned. These assignments will teach you how to use Excel to do computations and create graphs. I will spend some time in class introducing the assignment and demonstrating some of the skills you will need to complete them. I encourage you to bring your laptop or tablet equipped with Excel to class on the designated days, so that you can follow along. Each assignment has step-by-step instructions and pictures to help you learn to use the various Excel functions. These assignments are individual homework and are worth as much as the group assignments. You will have 2 weeks after the assignments are introduced to complete them.

**Exams:**

There will be five unit exams with each exam worth 10% of your overall grade. Each exam will be a mixture of theoretical and computational questions. **The exams will be significantly harder than the reading checks.** The quizzes will primarily assess whether you recognize and can identify/define key concepts that are in the chapter. The exams will have a few questions that do this, but they will have more questions that assess whether you can apply these ideas, differentiate similar ideas, understand the importance of different ideas, et cetera. In order to prepare for exams, students need to participate in the group assignments. I will also provide additional problems from the book that you can complete at home.

Your cell phone/tablet is not an acceptable calculator for exams. You are required to attend exam days. Make-up exams are only available by pre-arrangement with the professor and must be taken prior to the exam date. In case of emergency, alternative exam options will be provided given proper documentation. You will need to be on time on exam days; once the first person turns in their exam, no other exams will be given out.

**Extra Credit:**

I will offer up to 3 percentage points of extra credit for participating in studies in the psychology department or completing formal article reviews. Instructions for these opportunities are available on Blackboard. Each credit will be worth 1 percentage point, up to three. This opportunity is given so that if you are on the border between letter grades, you will be bumped up. I will not bump your grade to the next letter grade beyond the percentage points you earn for extra credit.
Fall 2015

Grade Assignments:

A 89.5% and above
B 79.5% to 89.4%
C 69.5% to 79.4%
D 59.5% to 69.4%
F 59.4% and below

Make-up work:

Make-up work will be rarely granted. If you become seriously ill during the semester, or become derailed by unforeseeable life problems and have to miss so many assignments that it will ruin your grade, it is your responsibility to drop the course in order to save your grade point average. Don’t wait until too late to see me if you get into trouble regarding your grade. “Incompletes” are rarely granted and only under very special circumstances. The drop date for Fall 2015 is October 30th.

Blackboard:

Blackboard sometimes becomes inaccessible for one reason or another. Usually, the problems are resolved within an hour or two. Blackboard outages are NOT an acceptable reason for missing online assignments except in extreme cases (e.g. outages lasting 24 hours or more). It is YOUR responsibility to plan ahead and make sure that your work is completed before the deadlines.

Classroom Etiquette:

It is important that you respect your fellow students by not disrupting class and preventing them from listening and asking questions. Thus, all cell phones, laptops, and wireless devices must be muted during the class session. Do not answer incoming calls or make outgoing calls. If there is an emergency, you should leave the classroom to talk on the phone. Do not play games or do other things on a computer or other device that might be distracting to others who can see your screen.

Contacting Me:

I am happy to help you and answer any questions you have about the course content, requirements, assignments, et cetera. If you have a question for me, you should either e-mail me, come to my office hours, or speak to me after class. If you want to make an appointment to see me, e-mail me and give me at least 3 times over the next few days when you will be available to meet. I will then respond to your e-mail with the time that will work for me. Finally, it is your responsibility review the relevant class document(s) before you ask me. If you e-mail or ask me a question that is in the syllabus or another source, I will respond by simply saying something like “see syllabus” or “see paper assignment.” If you don’t understand something that is in the syllabus or another class document, please be specific in your question so I know that you have reviewed the document and are uncertain about something. If you wish to inquire about a grade on an assignment, you must personally see me. I cannot discuss grades or tell you your grade over the phone or via e-mail.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. The handbook states that academic dishonesty “includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words
or ideas of another person as one's own. This includes close paraphrasing. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.”

Students with Disabilities:

I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first week of classes. Please see me personally within the first few days of class to make me aware of any special needs you might have. The CASS office can also be reached in the following ways: Web: http://sa.utep.edu/cass/ Phone: (915) 747-5148. E-Mail: cass@utep.edu. If you want me to make any accommodation for you, it is your responsibility to personally come talk to me BEFORE any quiz, exam or assignment for which you need accommodations. If you will be taking your exams at CASS, it is your responsibility to provide me with a completed copy of the CASS form at least 2 working days before the exam (e-mailing me an electronic form with your information is fine and preferred).

Course schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 25: Syllabus; Introduction to Class</td>
<td>Aug. 27: Math Review; Chapter 2 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 1: Chapter 3 (Quiz Due)</td>
<td>Sept. 3: Chapter 4 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 8: Excel Lesson 1; Exam Review; Hmwk 1 Due</td>
<td>Sept. 10: EXAM 1</td>
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<td>Sept. 15: Introduction to Research</td>
<td>Sept. 17: Chapter 6 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<td>Sept. 22: Chapter 6; CA 1 Due</td>
<td>Sept. 24: Chapter 7 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<td>Sept. 29: Chapter 7</td>
<td>Oct. 1: Chapter 8 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 6: Chapter 8</td>
<td>Oct. 8: Excel Lesson 2; Exam Review; Hmwk 2 Due</td>
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<td>Oct. 13: EXAM 2</td>
<td>Oct. 15: NO CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 20: Chapter 9 (Quiz Due)</td>
<td>Oct 21: Chapter 5 (Quiz Due); CA 2 Due</td>
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<td>October 27: Chapter 5/15 (Quiz Due);</td>
<td>October 28: Chapter 16 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<td>Nov. 3: Chapter 17 (Quiz Due)</td>
<td>Nov. 5: Excel Lesson 3; Exam Review; Hmwk 3 Due</td>
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<td>Nov. 10: EXAM 3</td>
<td>Nov. 11: Chapter 10 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<td>Nov. 17: Chapter 11/12 (Quiz Due)</td>
<td>Nov. 19: Excel Lesson 4; Exam Review; CA 3 &amp; Hmwk 4 Due</td>
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<td>Nov. 24: EXAM 4</td>
<td>Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<td>Dec. 1: Chapter 13 (Quiz Due)</td>
<td>Dec. 3: Chapter 14 (Quiz Due)</td>
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<td>Dec. 8: NO CLASS; Hmwk 5 Due</td>
<td>Dec. 10 @ 1pm: EXAM 5; CA 4 Due</td>
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The instructor reserves the right to modify information on this syllabus and class schedule given that reasonable notification of the change is given to the students and that the change does not unfairly disadvantage the students.