

**APPLIED STATISTICS IN INTELLIGENCE
INSS 5361, CRN #25408
THURSDAYS 6 :00-8 :50
UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING CENTER, ROOM 208
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
SPRING, 2020**

- I. Misty Duke, PhD
Office phone: 915-747-8573
Office hours by appointment, Kelly Hall, Room 213A
mcduke@utep.edu

II. **TEXTBOOK**

Weiss, N.A. (2011). *Introductory Statistics (10th edition)*. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-321-98917-8

Additional readings must be downloaded by students from the University library.

It is **extremely** important that assigned chapters be read prior to each class period. The lectures are meant to supplement and clarify the readings, not as a substitute for the readings. You are very unlikely to do well in this course if you do not read the assigned material.

III. **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Understand the statistical concepts and methods necessary for quantitative analysis of intelligence problems.
- B. Analyze data by graphs, charts, and inferential statistical tests.
- C. Acquire computing skills with SPSS.
- D. Apply quantitative reasoning to decision-making regarding intelligence and national security.

IV. **COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

This course provides the basic elements of statistics and analytical techniques for intelligence and national security stemming from applications within these fields. This empirical approach will allow students to formulate and demonstrate conceptual understanding of problems in areas such as terrorism, biosecurity, homeland security, and defense via statistics. Practical assignments in text form will be supported by computer tasks to master basic software such as Excel and SPSS.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Homework assignments (15%)

There will be one homework assignment per week. The homework assignments are intended to consolidate your knowledge of the content covered during the course. You will be required to demonstrate your ability to perform calculations, as well as your conceptual grasp of the statistical concepts discussed. The assignments will be posted on Blackboard and answers must be uploaded to Blackboard prior to the following class period. Some assignments will require the use of SPSS. This software is available remotely through My Apps or in computer labs throughout campus. You must show all of your work when performing calculations for homework questions and follow the homework instructions posted on Blackboard.

B. Critique of results section (20%)

You will be presented with a paper that describes quantitative research conducted in the field of intelligence or national security. You will be asked to critique the section of the paper that describes the results of the statistical analyses conducted as part of the research. As part of this critique, you will be required to describe the analyses conducted, the clarity of the author's description of the analyses, and the appropriateness of the analyses in addressing the hypotheses of the study. This paper will be due on **April 16th**. The paper must be turned in via Blackboard. Click on "Assignments", then click on "Critique" to submit the paper.

C. Exams (40%)

There will be a mid-term and a final exam. The exams will include questions requiring you to perform calculations, interpret data from graphs or charts, interpret descriptive statistics and the results of statistical tests, and demonstrate your conceptual understanding of statistical concepts. You will NOT be required to memorize formulas. The final exam will not be cumulative. If you must miss the exams for any reason, you must see me prior to the exams to discuss alternate arrangements. Arriving late for an exam may result in forfeiture of the opportunity to take the exam and a grade of zero. Information covered on the exam will be taken from the book and class discussions. All of the information in the book will not be covered in the class. You are responsible for reading and knowing the assigned book material. Additionally, all of the information covered in class will not be in the book. You are responsible for coming to class regularly. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes from a classmate. The scores on the exams will be adjusted so that the average score is 80% of the maximum possible points. If you do not put your name on the exams, you may receive a grade of zero.

D. Data analysis paper (25%)

You will be required to analyze and interpret a set of data and write a 3-5 page paper about the results. As part of this assignment, you will be required to generate two hypotheses and

analyze the data in a manner that allows for those hypotheses to be tested. This project will be completed in small groups. This paper will be due the date of the final exam. The paper must be turned in via Blackboard. Click on "Assignments", then click on "Data analysis" to submit the paper.

Note: You are expected to attend all class meetings. Please discuss with me any issues that make come up that require you to miss one or more classes.

VI. GRADING SCALE AT THE END

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = below 60%

NOTE: Final grades are a weighted average of assignment and exam grades. Final grades are not curved.

VII. TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS/QUESTIONS

For all technological, hardware, software problems, lost files, and/or questions with Blackboard, as well as difficulties you are having during an exam, contact Technology Support Help Desk 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Tech support is set up to specifically address technical questions and problems about Blackboard.

Professors are not technical support staff.

Phone: E-mail: Website: In Person:

915.747.4357 or toll free: 1-877-382-0491

<https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/>

UTEP Library, Room 300

Please regularly refer to Blackboard for links, documents, announcements, and calendar changes. You are responsible for being up-to-date on all class information that is posted on Blackboard.

CHECK YOUR TECHNOLOGY

- A. Computer with a reliable internet connection. Mobile devices are not reliable to access exams and use the discussion board.
- B. Blackboard (BB) Learning Management System. The entire course is run through UTEP's BB system, so students must activate and use their BB accounts regularly. Always log in using your UTEP name and password, and never as a "guest" (the guest option will kick you out after 15-20 minutes, which is problematic when taking a test because you will not be able to finish your test). All students are responsible for regularly logging in and checking for posted

- announcements, submitting assignments, participating in discussion boards, and taking tests through BB. Contact UTEP tech support for any questions or concerns regarding navigating in BB or learning how to do something in BB.
- C. Browser Information (See the left side of the menu on the main BB page for hardware, software, and browser checks) Firefox seems to consistently work the best, but other supported Browsers include Chrome, Safari, and Internet Explorer. Be sure to “Allow pop-ups” for Blackboard Clear your browser cache
 - D. Verify that you have the most updated version of “Java” <http://java.com>.
 - E. All word documents should be saved with a “docx” extension identifying it as a Microsoft Word file or compatible with MS Word, Windows Media Player, Quick Time, Adobe Reader, Adobe Flash Player

VIII. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

If a student is suspected of cheating on the exams through collaboration with other students, the instructor will follow the University’s policy regarding student dishonesty, which may result in a grade of zero and referral of the student to the Office of Student Conduct. If a student is suspected of plagiarism, the instructor will follow the University’s policy regarding student dishonesty, which may result in a grade of zero and referral of the student to the Office of Student Conduct.

Academic dishonesty or cheating is simply unethical and not acceptable under any circumstances. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves “stealing” the words and thoughts of others. It is a very serious academic violation and cannot be tolerated. The most common form of plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper or other assignment without giving credit to the source of that information or wording. **Plagiarism also includes the direct copying of a source verbatim (word for word) and incorporating that copied material into the student’s paper or assignment without first paraphrasing with proper referencing or placing the copied text into a direct quotation, again with appropriate footnotes or citations.** Students must use their own words when not using direct quotes. Direct quotes should be used sparingly and only when appropriate to provide examples, evidence, or illustrate specific points. **Students cannot simply “cut and paste” wording or text from source material to artificially “construct” their papers, essays, and other assignments. This practice is also considered plagiarism, even if references are done properly.**

Likewise, students must not submit work under their name that they did not do themselves. Students also may not submit work for this course that they produced for another course. If students are found to be cheating in any capacity including plagiarism and collusion, they will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Cases of academic dishonesty will be sent to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for adjudication and possible sanctions. Possible penalties for academic dishonesty include a zero for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension, and even expulsion from the university. Students are responsible for understanding their specific obligations to maintain academic integrity at all

times. Please refer to the following link for further information on UTEP's policies on plagiarism and academic dishonesty: <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>.

IX. STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If students have a disability that requires an accommodation, they may contact Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 747-5148.

X. UTEP COURSE DROP POLICY

If unforeseen circumstances happen where a drop is necessary, students are responsible for initiating any course drop. It is the student's responsibility to determine how dropping courses may affect financial aid. **Students are limited to dropping no more than 6 courses over their entire academic career of all courses taken at any public college or University in Texas.**

- A. Students who drop a course before the "official census date," the course will not appear on the transcript, and doesn't count toward the 6-course drop limit.
- B. Dropping a course after the official census date, but before the "course drop date" will generate a "W" in the course—although the drop shows on your transcript, a "W" does not lower your GPA. However, a "W" counts against your 6-drop limit.
- C. If the course is dropped after the "course drop date" or if the student just stops participating, taking tests, etc., UTEP requires the instructor to issue an "F" in the course that permanently remains on the transcript.
- D. UTEP also allows instructors to administratively drop any student because of too many times the student fails to submit assignments, discussion questions, or because of disciplinary reasons. In this case, the student will be notified of the course drop through their UTEP student email account. A "W" or an "F" will be issued. A "W" for these reasons counts against the 6-drop limit.

XI. STUDENT CONDUCT

You must be respectful of other students and of all opinions. All communication should be free of vulgar, offensive, and/or discriminatory language. While it is appropriate to share your opinion on particular issues, your opinion should be presented as such (not as a fact) and should be supported by valid, factual arguments. You may also provide constructive criticism of other opinions. Constructive criticism is provided respectfully and professionally, criticizing the merit of the arguments or the veracity of the facts not the person.

Cell phones should not be used in class without the permission of the instructor. Students should attend to the instructor during class lectures. Students who are disruptive to the class will be asked to leave. Students who wish to record lectures must obtain the instructor's permission. Laptops are allowed during class for taking notes or to aid in classroom exercises.

Students who use laptops for other purposes will be asked to put them away.

Students should ensure that all emailed communication is written using appropriate etiquette. Please use a salutation (for example, "Dear Dr. Duke", or "Hello Dr. Duke"), a clear and thorough communication of your question or concern, and a closing (for example, "Thanks, Bill Martinez" or "Sincerely, Angel Gomez"). Make sure to proofread your emails for grammar, spelling, and clear meaning. Also, please be sure to indicate the course title or number in your email.

Class calendar

1/23	<p>Chapters 1-2</p> <p>Committee on Behavioral and Social Science Research to Improve Intelligence Analysis for National Security (2011), p. 40</p>
1/30	<p>Chapter 3</p> <p>Fair, C. C. (2013). Insights from a database of Lashkar-e-Taiba and Hizb-ul-Mujahideen militants. <i>Journal of Strategic Studies</i>, 37, 259-290.</p> <p>Due: Homework #1</p>
2/6	<p>Chapter 4 and 5</p> <p>Due: Homework #2</p>
2/13	<p>Chapter 6</p> <p>Due: Homework #3</p>
2/20	<p>Chapter 7</p> <p>Due: Homework #4</p>
2/27	<p>Chapter 8/Review for Exam 1</p> <p>Due: Homework #5</p>
3/5	<p>Exam 1</p> <p>Due: Homework #6</p>
3/12	<p>Chapter 9</p> <p>Gartner, S. S. (2013). All mistakes are not equal: Intelligence errors and national security. <i>Intelligence and National Security</i>, 28, 634-654.</p> <p>Due: Homework #7</p>
3/19	No class-Spring Break

3/26	Chapter 10 Due: Homework #8
4/2	Chapter 13 Goli, M., & Rezaei, S. (2011). Radical Islamism and migrant integration in Denmark: An empirical inquiry. <i>Journal of Strategic Security</i> , 4, 81-114. Due: Homework #9
4/3	Course drop deadline
4/9	Chapter 14 Due: Homework #10 Due: Critique (before midnight)
4/16	Chapter 15 Due: Homework #11
4/23	Module A Due: Homework #12
4/30	Module B Ahram, A. (2011). Origins and persistence of state-sponsored militias: Path-dependent processes in third world military development. <i>Journal of Strategic Studies</i> , 34, 531-555. Due: Homework #13
5/7	Review for Exam 2
5/14	Exam 2 7:00-9:45 Due: Data Analysis Paper (before midnight) Due: Homework #15

* This calendar is subject to change.