

Course syllabus – Psych 1303 Statistical Methods Summer 2016, Frankowski

Instructor: Scott Frankowski, M.A.

Email: sdfrankowski@utep.edu. I will answer emails within 24 hours M-F (usually much quicker). Weekend emails *may* be answered during the weekend, but may not be answered until Monday.

Virtual Office Hours: Monday 12-2pm, Wednesday 12-2pm. I will be available for live chat during these times.

Required Text: www.onlinestatbook.com (free); please download the .pdf on day 1.

Required Software: Microsoft Excel (free from the UTEP bookstore); JASP Statistical Software (free download on Windows, Macs, and Linux systems): <https://jasp-stats.org/>;

Web-based apps: Qualtrics survey-software. A student version is available to you through UTEP: utep.qualtrics.com. Use your UTEP sign-in to access.

Other requirements: Must have the ability to upload clear photos or scans of handwritten documents (i.e. math homework). You can do this with a scanner or a smart-phone. The Online Stats Book is available as a .pdf download, so you must have a .pdf reader installed on your computer. The website uses java, so you must be able to view the website as well.

Suggested software: Dropbox (or similar programs such as Window's SkyDrive or Google Drive) to store all course documents in the "cloud" (which will prevent data-loss from a computer crash).

Accommodation Services: If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

Course Objectives. Upon completion of this course, successful students ought to:

- Be familiar with basic statistical concepts.
- Be proficient with the use of Excel for calculations and creating graphs.
- Be proficient with JASP statistical software
- Have a basic understanding of the research process
- Be proficient with designing and carrying out a research project
- Be able to analyze a data set
- Be able to draw conclusions from analyses
- Be able to properly convey statistical results in a research paper

Successful students in this course will have a foundation of statistical skills and research experience to get further involved in research in the university and beyond.

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This is an online course in introductory statistics. All work will be completed on your computer and as such assumes that you are capable with basic functions of a computer (e.g. installing programs, uploading documents, scanning documents, email, etc.). It is the students' responsibility to download the required software and text. The instructor will not provide technical support. Furthermore, enrolling in this course assumes you have daily access to an internet connected computer that is capable of running all of the required software. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that their computer functions properly and that they have a consistent internet connection. **Computer crashes or internet outages will never excuse a course deadline.** If a Blackboard outage occurs (as documented by UTEP's tech department), a deadline may be pushed back.

Grading. Grades will be based on course participation, quizzes, homework assignments, final research paper, and tests. Different people work better with different modes of evaluation, and as such there are many different ways to earn points in this class.

- **Quizzes:** 50 points each (4 quizzes)
- **Exams:** 125 points each (2 exams)
- **Participation:** 100 points total. Posts to blackboard count towards this (see course schedule)
- **Homework:** 50 points each (4 assignments)
- **Final research paper:** 250 points total.

Total Points: 1,000.

$\geq 900 = A,$

$\geq 800 = B,$

$\geq 700 = C,$

$\geq 600 = D$

Grades will be posted to Blackboard for each assignment. Participation grades will be calculated at the end of the semester. I will grade as quickly as I can to provide you feedback in a timely fashion, but please allow a few days for a grade to be posted. For some graded material (quizzes and exams), a grade may appear immediately, but will may change as I receive uploads of your handwritten work.

Deadlines. Deadlines for turning in work and completing quizzes and exams are *not* flexible. If such activities are not submitted before the deadline, you will receive a grade of 0 on the activity. Thus, pay close attention to when work needs to be completed. The only exception to this policy is for documented blackboard outages. Because you will always have more than one day to complete an assignment or test, there will be no accommodations for late work except under the most extreme circumstances. In such cases, I will require documentation before the deadline,

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Handwritten work. This stats course will require doing math by hand that you will upload as a picture or scan. Please make sure that the handwritten work you turn in is legible and organized neatly so I can quickly go through it. If I can't read it, I can't grade it, and hence points will be deducted.

Quizzes. Quizzes will consist of 5-10 multiple choice questions. You will likely need to perform calculations to arrive at correct answers. You may be asked to submit the work you performed (i.e. photo or scan of handwritten calculations).

Exams. Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. You will likely need to perform calculations to arrive at correct answers. You may be asked to submit the work you performed (i.e. photo or scan of handwritten calculations).

Homework. Homework may consist of hand-written problems, creation of graphs or calculations using Excel, and data analyses using JASP.

Final Research Paper. For this paper you will collect data from at least 30 individuals and conduct analyses that you have learned in class on these data. You must choose a research question to address and get approval from me by no later than the end of week 4. Research questions can be anything psychological or health related (pending approval, as there are certain topics that would require formal ethical review, so I need to make sure your topic does not require such review. *See the handout titled: UTEP IRB Guidance on Classroom Research*). You will design a short survey in Qualtrics, send the link to others (class-mates, friends, family, co-workers, strangers) and perform appropriate analyses on the data. You will write up a short APA-formatted research paper summarizing the findings. The paper should include a title page, abstract, introduction, methods section, results, and a discussion section. It must also include at least one table or graph. Be familiar with UTEP's academic honesty policy. Plagiarism or data fabrication will not be tolerated. Data fabrication is very easy to spot, and if I suspect it, I will conduct analyses on your raw data that will confirm it.

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to know and follow UTEP policy regarding academic conduct and honesty. 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. As a statistician, I can conduct analyses that will report the likelihood of falsified data, if I suspect it. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person as one's own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions (which will be my recommendation to the Dean). UTEP's student code of conduct and discipline can be found here:
<http://admin.utep.edu/LinkClick.aspx?link=HOOP-Section+II.pdf&tabid=30181&mid=63285>

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Online Etiquette

Please engage in professional discourse in discussions. Disagreements are fine, personal attacks are not. Please be respectful to your classmates and toward me. I don't foresee issues in a stats course (as compared to, say, Ethics), but I will not tolerate racist, sexist, homophobic, or any other comments that disparage a group of people. Often times people use derogatory terms to express their displeasure without thinking through what such words actually mean. Think before you type (or re-read and edit before you post).