SOCI332

Course Summary

Course : SOCI332 **Title :** Statistics for Social Science
Length of Course : 8
Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course is designed to provide a basic survey of the application, empirical use and interpretation of a variety of statistics methods used in the social sciences. A key objective of the course is the instruction in best statistical practice through the use, exploration and analysis of empirical data. Emphasis will be placed on understanding and interpreting the meaning of statistics. The practical aspects of statistics are emphasized and students are instructed in the use of the standard statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS) which is widely used in the social sciences and the in labor force. NOTE: Students must have access to required software: SPSS (Statistics Package for the Social Sciences); see Course Materials for current version requirement. APUS does not supply this software

Course Scope:

The student will develop an ability to use sociological concepts, theory, and research to think critically and act intelligently in interactions with (and observations of) individuals, groups, institutions, and societies.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

CO1- Describe and apply the concepts and logic of elementary statistics.
CO2- Conduct statistical analysis in SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences).
CO3- Compare and contrast different types of data and the statistics that can be used to analyze them
CO4- Examine the differences between descriptive and inferential statistics and their use in the social sciences.
CO5- Form critical interpretations of quantitative research literature in sociology and other social sciences.
CO6- Complete and interpret descriptive and inferential statistical data analysis
CO7- Develop a research project from conceptualizing a research problem and develop a number of complementary design, measurement, and data collection approaches to bring evidence to bear on the problem.
CO8- Critically evaluate the quality of research design and evidence in published social research.

Outline

Week 1: Preparing for Data Analysis

Assigned Readings

OpenStax text, Chapter 1

SPSS Handbook, Chapters 1-2

Assignments

>   1) Complete the Required Introduction Forum
>   2) Week 1 Forum

Week 2: Univariate Analysis

Assigned Readings

OpenStax textbook, Chapter 2

SPSS Handbook, Chapters 3-5

Assignments

>   1) Week 2 Forum

Week 3: Univariate vs. Bivariate Analysis

Assigned Readings

OpenStax textbook, Chapter 2

SPSS Handbook, Chapters 4

Garrison article

Assignments

1) Week 3 Forum
2) Assignment 1 Due

Week 4: Previous Literature and Cause and Effect

Assigned Readings

SPSS Handbook, Chapter 6

Assignments

>   1) Week 4 Forum

Week 5: Measures of Association, Correlation, and Regression

Assigned Readings

OpenStax textbook, Chapter 12

SPSS Handbook, Chapter 6

Assignments

    1) Week 5 Forum

Due by 11:55pm ET on Sunday of Week 5

Week 6: Tests of Significance

Assigned Readings

OpenStax textbook, Chapters 6, 9, 10, 11, 13

SPSS Handbook, Chapter 7

Assignments

    1) Week 6 Forum
    2) Assignment 2 Due

Week 7: Multiple Causation

Assigned Readings

OpenStax textbook, Chapter 12

SPSS Handbook, Chapter 6

Assignments

    1) Week 7 Forum
    2) Final Portfolio Project Due

Week 8: Statistical Wrap-Up

Assigned Readings

SPSS Handbook, Chapter 8

Assignments

    1) Week 8 Forum- Post Presentations

Evaluation

Forums:
Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Forums is required. Forums are scheduled weekly and found in the Forums tab in the classroom. Specific instructions and the grading rubric are located on each Forum.

Assignments:

This course includes three Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

Materials

Book Title: Adventures in Social Research: Data Analysis Using IBM SPSS Statistics, 9th Ed- The VitalSource e-book is provided via the APUS Bookstore

Author: Babbie, Wagner, Zaino

Publication Info: Sage

ISBN: 9781483359588

Book Title: APUS does not supply this software. Students must have access to the required software. The listing can be found at http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore

Author: N/A

Publication Info: N/A

ISBN: N/A

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

General Social Survey Dataset
SPSS Software

SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:

- SPSS (more details under Welcome Announcements in the Sakai classroom)
- Microsoft Office Applications- Word, Power Point (these can be downloaded free of charge from your student email account)
- Screencast-o-matic or similar program

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. *Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.*

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy

- Extension Requests

- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.