

**PSYC 300: Statistics in Psychology- Lab  
Fall 2017**

**Section 205- Monday 8:30-10:20am  
(Innovation Hall 203)**

**Instructor:** Spencer Kohn  
**Office:** David King Hall 1014B

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 10:30-11:30am  
**Email:** skohn3@masonlive.gmu.edu

**Required Text:** Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), *Gregory J. Privitera. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1-4522-8690-7*

**Lab Objectives:**

In each lab, you will engage directly in the material through exercises with SPSS, and learn to perform statistical data analysis and hypothesis testing. The lab also provides a time for students to ask questions and review difficult concepts from lecture with the help of the teaching assistant.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Your grade in this lab will account for 20% of your final PSYC300 grade and will be assessed based on your homework and in class lab assignments.

*Homework (10%):* You will receive a homework assignment each week, that will be due at the beginning of the following lab. These assignments will be posted on Blackboard and are designed for you to practice the material and prepare for the exams. After handing in the homework assignment due that week, we will begin the lab by reviewing the homework problems together. If you arrive late to class, and we are already reviewing the homework problems, you are to give your homework to the instructor before sitting down in order to receive credit. **Other than due to late attendance, no late homework will be accepted after the lab due date.** If you know you will be missing a lab, you must make your own arrangements to send your homework through a friend, or place it in my mailbox *before* the beginning of the lab.

Homework Grading Scale:

0 = homework failed to be turned in, not completed, or barely completed

2 = homework is not fully completed

4 = homework is fully completed

\* NOTE: homework will be graded on completion and visible effort, not on correctness of answers. However, I will try my best to give feedback to aid in your understanding of the material. Thus, it will be most helpful to show as much work as possible.

*In Class Lab Assignments (10%):* During each session, we will run through a series of the SPSS exercises and then you will be given a combination of statistical problems and SPSS exercises to complete in class. All lab assignments will be handed in at the end of class and will be graded on correctness. At the end of the semester, I will drop the two lowest assignment scores and your top ten scores will contribute to your final lab grade.

**Typical Lab Schedule:**

- 1) Turn in Homework
- 2) Review Homework/Answer questions from lecture
- 3) SPSS demo

4) In class lab assignment (Once you finish your lab assignment and turn it in, you are free to leave)

**Course Schedule: (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

| Week          | Lab topics/Activities   |
|---------------|---|
| 1<br>(8/28)   | Lab Overview & Introduction   |
| 2<br>(9/4)    | Labor Day (No Class)  |
| 3<br>(9/11)   | Introduction to SPSS + Frequency                                      |
| 4<br>(9/18)   | Measures of Central Tendency & Variability                            |
| 5<br>(9/25)   | Exam 1 in Lab   |
| 6<br>(10/2)   | Variability, Normal Distributions, & Central Limit Theorem            |
| 7<br>(10/10)  | Sampling Distributions (Lab will occur on Tuesday)                    |
| 8<br>(10/23)  | Hypothesis Testing  |
| 9<br>(10/30)  | Testing the Difference of Means<br>Testing the Relation Between Means |
| 10<br>(11/6)  | Exam 2 in Lab   |
| 11<br>(11/13) | Analysis of Variance Between Subjects                                 |
| 12<br>(11/20) | Analysis of Variance Within Subjects                                  |
| 13<br>(11/27) | Analysis of Variance Factorial  |
| 14<br>(12/4)  | Correlations & Review   |
| 15<br>(12/11) | Final Exam in Lab   |

**General Policies**

**Attendance:** Although I will not take attendance in lab, coming to class is important. During lab you will have the chance to ask questions in regards to material from lecture that you may need extra help with. Additionally, being absent from class will cause you to miss in-class lab assignments and the points from these. You may also miss announcements about scheduling changes and extra credit opportunities. **You are responsible for all announcements made in lab regardless of whether or not you attend class.**

**Late work:** In-class exercises and homework **will not be accepted late.**

**Make-up policy:** Given that you can drop two in-class assignments, there will not be any make-ups for missed in-class lab activities in the lab portion of PSYC 300. Homework may also be placed in my mailbox before lab if you need to miss a lab session.

My mailbox is located on David King Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity refers to honest and ethical behavior in all aspects of academic activity. This includes: not cheating on exams or homework assignments (e.g., copying the work of others), not passing off someone else's ideas as your own (plagiarism), not engaging in dishonesty of any kind with regard to your class participation and assignments.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the *unacknowledged* use of another person's labor, another person's ideas, another person's words, or another person's assistance. Unless otherwise stated in class, all work done for courses – writing assignments, examinations, homework exercises, laboratory reports, oral presentations - is expected to be the individual effort of the student presenting the work. Any assistance must be reported to the instructor. If the work has entailed consulting other resources -- journals, books, or other media -- these resources must be cited in a manner appropriate to the course. Everything used from other sources -- suggestions for organization of ideas, ideas themselves, or actual language -- must be cited. Failure to cite borrowed material constitutes plagiarism. Undocumented use of materials from the World Wide Web is plagiarism. If you are caught plagiarizing or cheating, you will fail the assignment, and, depending upon the severity of the violation, you may fail the class.

**Honor Code:** George Mason University has an Honor Code, which requires all members of this community to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing are all prohibited. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee. See [honorcode.gmu.edu](http://honorcode.gmu.edu) for detailed information.

**Classroom needs:** If you have any specific needs (e.g., related to vision, hearing, learning, or medical conditions) or any religious or cultural practices, please let me know by the second week of class so that I can make the appropriate arrangements. Disabilities must be documented by the Disability Resources Center (703-993-2474) for reasonable accommodations to be provided.

**Official Communications via GMU E-mail:** Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly. In the event that class is canceled, I will notify you via email; this email will include information about making up the missed class.

**Enrollment:** Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes (available from the Registrar's Website: [registrar.gmu.edu](http://registrar.gmu.edu)). **Last Day to Add: Sept. 5. Last Day to Drop: Sept 29.** After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.