# PSYC 300: STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY – LAB SECTION 204
## FALL 2017

**Instructor:** Robert Lopez
**Email:** rlopez20@gmu.edu
**Office Hours:** Wednesdays, 8:30-9:30 AM (or by appointment).
**Office:** David King Hall 1014A

**Lab Time & Location:** Fridays, 10:30 – 12:20 PM, Innovation Hall 129

**Required**: Salkind, N. J. (2016). *Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics* (6th edition). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781506396477

*NOTE: May borrow from GMU library for a short duration of time. For more information, go to http://library.gmu.edu/for/students/textbooks*

**Lab Schedule:**

| Week | Date | Lab Topics & Activities |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 9/1 | Lab Overview<br>Introduction to SPSS + Data Entry |
| 2 | 9/8 | Measures of Central Tendency & Variability |
| 3 | 9/15 | Graphing & Correlations (Pt. 1) |
| 4 | 9/22 | Correlations (Pt. 2) |
| 5 | 9/29 | **NO LAB (Exam Week)** |
| 6 | 10/6 | Hypothesis Testing & Normal Curves |
| 7 | 10/13 | z-tests |
| 8 | 10/20 | t-tests (Pt. 1) |
| 9 | 10/27 | t-tests (pt 2) & Analysis of Variance (Pt. 1) |
| 10 | 11/3 | Analysis of Variance (Pt. 2) |
| 11 | 11/10 | **NO LAB (Exam Week)** |
| 12 | 11/17 | Factorial Analysis of Variance |
| 13 | 11/24 | **NO LAB (Holiday)** |
| 14 | 12/1 | Linear Regression |
| 15 | 12/8 | Non-parametric Tests |

**Course Description:** We will cover many of the basic descriptive and inferential statistics that are used in the field of psychology. This is a 4-credit course, which includes both a lecture section and a lab section. During the lecture sessions, Dr. Murdoch will cover the topics listed on the syllabus and take you step-by-step through statistical analyses. During your lab sessions, we will review and practice the topic(s) from that week's lectures; you will also get hands-on experience using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) to analyze data.

**Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, students should be able to

- Identify and apply appropriate statistical procedures (e.g. descriptive versus inferential) for simple research designs.
- Analyze data using statistical software (i.e. SPSS).
- Communicate statistical findings using APA guidelines.

**Lab assignments/participation:** In addition to the exams, assignments, and research participation (see Dr. Murdoch's course syllabus), the lab portion of this course accounts for 110 points toward your final grade. This lab course will consist of 12 class periods; therefore, you may miss (or drop the grade from) **ONE** lab class without penalty. Additionally, you will complete 4 APA-style Results sections as outlined by Dr. Murdoch on her syllabus. Directions will be given during lecture and reinforced in lab. Please turn in these results section assignments to me on the TBD due date as a hard copy.

**Grade Breakdown:**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A+ | 97-100% | B+ | 87-89% | C+ | 77-79% | D+ | 67-69% | F | < 60% |
| A | 93-96% | B | 83-86% | C | 73-76% | D | 63-66% | | |
| A- | 90-92% | B- | 80-82% | C- | 70-72% | D- | 60-62% | | |

**General Policies:**

**Attendance & Late Assignments:** Coming to lab is important, and attendance will be taken in the form on completing class assignments. Material will be presented in lab that is not covered in the book and you will be held responsible for that information. Additionally, you will lose lab assignment points. 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.**

Furthermore, in-class exercises will not be accepted late (i.e., you will receive a zero). If you are late to class, you will have points deducted from your lab assignment (1 point for every 5 min). If you are more than 15 minutes late to class, you will receive a 0 for that day's in-class exercise. Since we will discuss the examples necessary to complete assignments during the beginning of lab, this period of time is inherently the most important part of lab. Non-penalty extensions will be considered in the case of a family or medical emergency. Please provide documentation (e.g., doctor's note) in this event.

**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 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 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.

**Technology:** The desktop computers in Innovation Hall will be used during lab for statistical analysis using SPSS software. If you would like access to SPSS at home, please visit vcl.gmu.edu and log-in using your PatriotWeb credentials. Assignments will be handed out in class or uploaded on Blackboard. Please check Blackboard regularly. Regarding electronic devices (such as laptops, cell phones, etc.), please be respectful of your peers and your instructor, and do not engage in activities that are unrelated to 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.).

- **Last Day to Add/drop without tuition penalty: Sept. 5th, 2017**
- **Last Day to Drop: Sept. 19th, 2017 (includes a 33% tuition penalty)**
- **Final Day to Drop: Sept. 29th, 2017 (includes 67% tuition penalty)**

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.