PSYC 300: Statistics in Psychology – Lab Sections 209 and 210

Fall 2021

Instructor: Gracie Kelly

Email: akelly32@gmu.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Office: Zoom – See BlackBoard

Lab Time & Location: Fridays 8:30 – 10:20 am - Innovation Hall 317, 10:30 – 12:20 pm - Innovation Hall 203

Required Text: Salkind, N. J. (2014). *Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics* (6th edition). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1506333830

*NOTE: May borrow from GMU library for a short duration of time. For more information, go to*

*http://library.gmu.edu/for/students/textbooks*

Tentative Course Schedule:

*Students are responsible for being aware of any changes in this schedule announced in class, lab, or over email.*

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Lab topics/Activities** |
| 1 | 8/27 | Lab Overview Introduction to SPSS + Data Entry |
| 2 | 9/3 | Measures of Central Tendency  |
| 3 | 9/10 | Measures of Variability |
| 4 | 9/17 | Correlations/Reliability & Validity |
| 5 | 9/24 | NO LAB (Exam Week) |
| 6 | 10/1 | Hypothesis testing & z scores |
| 7 | 10/8 | z tests & one-sample t tests |
| 8 | 10/15 | t tests |
| 9 | 10/22 | NO LAB (Exam Week) |
| 10 | 10/29 | Analysis of Variance |
| 11 | 11/5 | Factorial Analysis of Variance |
| 12 | 11/12 | NO LAB (Exam Week) |
| 13 | 11/19 | Linear Regression |
| 14 | 11/26 | NO LAB – THANKSGIVING BREAK |
| 15 | 12/3 | Interpreting results (Data analysis) |

**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. Stuewig 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, pop quizzes, and research participation (see Dr. Stuewig’s course syllabus), the lab portion of this course accounts for **25%** of your final grade. This lab course will consist of 11 class periods during which you will complete a 10 point assignment. You may miss (or drop the grade from) **ONE** lab without penalty, meaning your lab grade will total **100 points** for the semester.

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| page2image5057232**Grade Breakdown**  |
|  A+ (97-100%)  |  B+ (87-89%)  |  C+ (77-79%)  | page2image3718480 D+ (67-69%)  | page2image3684992 F (< 60%)  |
|  A (93-96%)  |  B (83-86%)  |  C (73-76%)  | page2image3707872 D (63-66%)  | page2image3707040 |
|  A- (90-92%)  |  B- (80-82%)  |  C- (70-72%)  | page2image3762160 D- (60-62%)  | page2image3763616 |

**General Policies**

**Grading:** In terms of grading, the assignments are graded based on completeness and effort. You will not lose points for incorrect answers, but will lose points if you skip portions of problems. Additionally, it is important that you show ALL work to receive full credit. Feel free to submit this on a separate page as needed. The more work you show, the better chance we can help when something goes wrong.

**Attendance & Late Assignments:** Coming to lab is important. Material will be presented in lab that is not covered in the book and you will be held responsible for that information. 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.** I encourage you to complete that week’s assignment **in lab before leaving that day**. However, the lab assignment is technically due **by the beginning of lab the following week.** I’m happy to help you with your assignments during my office hours and will do my best to be available by appointment or over email if my office hours are not convenient for you. However, your best bet to get guidance is to complete the assignment in lab. I reserve the right to change this policy (ie make the daily assignment due *in lab* the day it is assigned) if needed. You may submit assignments up to 5 days late, but an additional 10% of the grade will be deducted with each day it is late.

**Late Arrival Policy:** Attendance will be taken each class. I will allow one late arrival without deducting points from that week’s assignment. After this, if you are more than 15 minutes late to class, 5 points will be deducted from that week’s assignment. If you do not come to class at all, you will receive a 10 point deduction from that week’s assignment (unless it is your one allowed skip). Since we will discuss the examples necessary to complete assignments during the beginning of lab, it is very important to be present at the start of class. 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.

**COVID-19:** If you have to miss a lab due to COVID-19 (symptoms, positive test, or confirmed exposure), please let me know as soon as possible. Obviously, I do not want anybody to come to lab at the risk of endangering their own health or that of their classmates. Ideally, this missed lab will be your dropped grade of the semester (see “Lab assignments and participation” section above). *If* you have already used your dropped grade for another reason, we will work together so that you can make up the assignment that you missed in lab. This will likely mean completing it on your own (see “Technology” section for how to access SPSS from your own computer). Of course, please feel free to attend my office hours so that I can help out.

**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.

**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 classes: August 30, 2021
* Last day to drop classes with no tuition penalty: September 7, 2021
* Last day to drop classes with 50% tuition penalty: September 14, 2021
* Final drop deadline: September 27, 2021

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.

I am looking forward to working with all of you! Please feel free to email me or attend my office hours. I am here as a resource to help you with the work in this lab and in the class over all. I genuinely love statistics and want to help you all learn as much as you can.