PSYC 300: Statistics in Psychology – Lab Section 213 & 214

Fall 2021

Instructor: Lida Ponce

Email: lponce@gmu.edu

Office Hours and Location: David King Rm 3042 or by appointment

Thursdays, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Lab Time & Location: Innovation Hall Rm 203

Lab Section 213 Thursdays, 8:30 AM – 10:20 AM

Lab Section 214 Thursdays, 10:30 AM – 12:20 PM

Required Text: Introductory Statistics (Illowsky & Dean, 2021)

Course Schedule:

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Lab topics/Activities** | |
| 1 | (Aug 26) | Lab Overview: Sampling and Data  Frequencies, Percentiles, & Plots |
| 2 | (Sep 2) | Measures of Central Tendency & Variability | |
| 3 | (Sep 9) | Z-Scores | |
| 4 | (Sep 16) | The Normal Distribution  Introduction to R | |
| 5 | (Sep 30) | Null Hypothesis Significance Testing | |
| 6 | (Oct 7) | The “T” Distribution | |
| 7 | (Oct 14) | Two-Sample T-Tests | |
| 8 | (Oct 21) | Two-Sample T-Tests  ANOVAs | |
| 9 | (Oct 28) | Introduction to SPSS + Data Entry | |
| 10 | (Nov 4) | Effect Sizes  Correlation | |
| 11 | (Nov 11) | Linear Regression | |
| 12 | (Nov 18) | Nonparametric Tests | |
| 13 | (Nov 25) | No lab | |
| 14 | (Dec 2) | Other Topics / Catch-Up / Review | |
| 15 | (Dec 9) | Finals – No Lab | |

**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 your lab sessions, we will review and practice the topic(s) from that week’s lectures; you will also get hands-on experience using a computer program to analyze data.

**Learning Outcomes**

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

* Identify and apply appropriate statistical procedures for simple research designs.
* Analyze data using statistical software (e.g., R).
* Communicate statistical findings using APA guidelines.

**Lab assignments & participation:** In addition to the exams, assignments, and research participation (see Professor Steven Zhou’s course syllabus), the lab portion of this course accounts for 50 points toward your final grade. This lab course will consist of 13 class periods; therefore, you may miss (or drop the grade from) **ONE** lab class without penalty. Additionally, you will complete 12 Practice Sets as outlined by Professor Steven Zhou’s syllabus.

**General Policies:**

1. **Attendance & Late Assignments:** Coming to lab is important, and attendance will be taken in the form of completing class assignments. Missing more than 50% lab will result in a reduction of 5 points per class missed out of your lab attendance grade. Arriving late will result in a reduction of 1 point for every 5 min (up to 5 points). 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. 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.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.
2. **Academic Integrity and the Honor Code:** Academic integrity refers to honest and ethical behavior in all aspects of academic activity. This includes: not cheating on exams or 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 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. 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.
3. **Disability Accommodations:** Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: [ods@gmu.edu](mailto:ods@gmu.edu) | Phone: (703) 993-2474
4. **Official Communication via GMU Email:** 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 email 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.
5. **Technology:** The desktop computers in Innovation Hall will be used during lab for statistical analysis. Assignments will be handed out in class or uploaded on Blackboard. Please check Blackboard and your email regularly. Regarding electronic devices in class (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. Such disruptions show a lack of professionalism and may affect your grade. Students must follow the university policy for [Responsible Use of Computing](http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
6. 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: August 30. Last Day to Drop without tuition penalty: September 7. Drop period with 50% tuition refund: September 8-14. Drop period with no refund: September 15-27. Selective withdrawal period: September 28-October 27. 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. Please see the following webpage for more details about the new Add/Drop policy: <https://registrar.gmu.edu/drop-withdrawal-deadlines-faqs/> .
7. [The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)](http://caps.gmu.edu/) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students’ personal experience and academic performance. Counseling Center: Student Union I, Room 364, 703-993-2380. Website [here](http://www.gmu.edu/departments/csdc/).
8. [The George Mason University Writing Center](http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/) staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing. University Writing Center: Robinson Hall Room A114, 703-993-1200. The writing center includes assistance for students for whom English is a second language.
9. [Diversity](http://ctfe.gmu.edu/professional-development/mason-diversity-statement/): George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study and personal growth. George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty, and staff. An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds, and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard, and respected.
10. Notice of a mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking: As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee”, and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1412. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling & Psychology Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730 or emailing [cde@gmu.edu](mailto:cde@gmu.edu).
11. Religious Holidays: A list of religious holidays is available on the University Life Calendar page. See the [Religious Holiday Calendar](http://ulife.gmu.edu/calendar/religious-holiday-calendar/). Any student whose religious observance conflicts with a scheduled course activity should let me know in advance of the conflict date so that we can make alternative arrangements.