DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

This course is the first in a series of three statistics courses required for the doctoral degree in Social Work. The overall purpose is to enhance students’ skills in performing research and statistical analyses in the social sciences. In this course, we will cover the concept of inferential statistics and bivariate inferential statistical testing including t-tests, ANOVA, chi-square, and bivariate linear regression. We will also learn to compute effect sizes and measures of association, as well as to conduct nonparametric tests.

Expanded Description of Course Content:
Building on previous courses, particularly Research I, in this course an evidence informed approach to social work practice and the delivery of human service program is emphasized. In this course quantitative and qualitative research methods and commonly used statistical procedures and approaches are applied to the evaluation of social work practice interventions and the evaluation of human service programs.
In this course these research skills and knowledge are presented from the perspective of promoting diversity and social and economic justice in the evaluation of social work intervention and the delivery of human service programs.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
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1. To increase the student’s understanding of the role of statistics in social work practice, theory construction, and policy formation;
2. To increase the student’s ability to interpret, utilize and analyze statistical outcomes presented in empirical studies in social science;
3. To increase the ability of students to match appropriate statistical procedures to type of data, and research questions;
4. To increase the student’s ability to perform univariate and bivariate statistical analyses using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software; and
5. To increase the ability of students to interpret research outcomes based on their statistical results.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER COURSE MATERIALS


The focus of this class will be on the implementation, understanding, and interpretation of statistics used in social science research. SPSS will be demonstrated on many occasions in class, including an introductory overview, data manipulation and management. Students entirely unfamiliar with SPSS may consider consulting the following resource:

The Office of Information Technology at UTA offers an Introduction to SPSS course, free to UTA students at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/training/classes/statistics.php.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER COURSE MATERIALS


DESCRIPTIONS OF MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

**Homework Assignments (40%):**
There will be eight (8) homework assignments each worth 5%. Homework assignments will be assigned at the end of each class and due at the beginning of the next class. For example, the homework assignment covering Session 2 materials, on August 29th, will be due the following week, September 5th, at 8:00AM. Assignments will be available on Canvas. Students will be responsible for downloading the homework assignments from Canvas each week. Students will submit the homework assignments via Canvas as a Word or SPSS document. Hand written copies of homework assignments will not be accepted. Homework assignments handed in after the due date will be penalized by 5% per day.

**Final Assignment (20%):**
The students are expected to demonstrate their competence with the whole range of statistical techniques covered in the course within the framework of a research topic. The results should be presented in the format of methods and results sections of a journal article. This assignment is due on or before Wednesday December 4, 2019.

**Final Exam (40%):**
Final exam will be administered online on Thursday November 21st from 8:00AM and close on Saturday November 23rd at 11:59PM. It is recommended that you complete the exam on a computer with a reliable and high-speed Internet connection.

**ATTENDANCE**
At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients. As the instructor of this PhD-level course, I expect perfect attendance, and any student who misses more than three (3) scheduled classes will receive an “F” in the class. In the event of extenuating circumstances, please notify me ahead of time, to the degree possible.

**GRADING**

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework assignments</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final assignment</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>Fail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
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Note: Grades will be posted to the campus MyMav system at course completion and made available on the University Schedule for posting of grades. Grades cannot be given by email or individually by the instructor, per University Policy

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.
To avoid receiving a failing grade due to absences, it is the student’s responsibility to withdraw from or drop the class according to University guidelines and time frames. An incomplete grade for the semester will only be considered in the event of a documented medical emergency. **Students are expected to keep a copy of all assignments submitted.**

**MAKE-UP EXAMS**

No make-up, either before or after the scheduled date, will be given without a documented excuse.

Late assignments will be reduced by five (5) points for each day that they are late. Exceptions will be made in extenuating circumstances and with proper documentation.

**COURSE SCHEDULE AND OUTLINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Date</th>
<th>Main Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment Due date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
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<td>Session 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Pre-screening data Missing data</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 6), The beast of bias Saunders et al. (2006)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 3</td>
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<td>Session 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 12</td>
<td>Measuring Associations</td>
<td>Field (C. 8), Correlation Cleverly &amp; Kidd (2011)</td>
<td>Homework assignment 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>Bivariate Linear Regression</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 9), Regression Cronley et al. (2016)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>Bivariate Linear Regression, cont.</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 9), Regression Stewart, S. L., Kam, C., &amp; Baiden, P. (2014).</td>
<td>Homework assignment 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Comparing Two Means</td>
<td>Field (C. 10), Comparing two means (GLM 1) Lander et al. (2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 10</td>
<td>Comparing Several Means</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 12), Comparing several independent means (GLM 1) Nettles (1990)</td>
<td>Homework assignment 4</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 9</th>
<th>Oct. 17</th>
<th>Analysis of Covariance, ANCOVA</th>
<th>Field (Ch. 13), Analysis of Covariance: ANCOVA (GLM 2)</th>
<th>Homework assignment 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 10</td>
<td>Oct. 24</td>
<td>Factorial ANOVA: Testing hypotheses about three or more means</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 14), Factorial Designs (GLM 3)</td>
<td>Homework assignment 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 11</td>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>Repeated-measures Designs</td>
<td>Field (Ch. 15) Repeated-measures designs (GLM4) Bender et al. (2015)</td>
<td>Homework assignment 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 13</td>
<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td>Final Exam Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 14</td>
<td>Nov. 21 ONLINE</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**NOVEMBER 28TH NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING**

**FINAL ASSIGNMENT IS DUE ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4TH.**

**Note:**
*Every effort will be made to manage the course as stated. However, adjustments may be necessary at the discretion of the instructor. If so, students will be advised and alterations discussed in the class prior to implementation.*

**EXPECTATIONS FOR OUT-OF-CLASS STUDY**

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional three hours (for each hour of class or lecture per week) of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for assignments and exams, and reviewing online content, etc.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php).
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The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email **IDEAS@uta.edu** or call (817) 272-6593.

The UT Arlington School of Social Work community is committed to and cares about all of our students. If you or someone you know feels overwhelmed, hopeless, depressed, and/or is thinking about dying by suicide or harming oneself or someone else, supportive services are available. For immediate, 24-hour help call MAVS Talk at 817-272-TALK (817-272-8255). For campus resources, contact Counseling and Psychological Services (817-272-3671 or visit [http://www.uta.edu/caps/index.php](http://www.uta.edu/caps/index.php)) or UT Arlington Psychiatric Services (817-272-2771 or visit [https://www.uta.edu/caps/services/psychiatric.php](https://www.uta.edu/caps/services/psychiatric.php)) for more information or to schedule an appointment. You can be seen by a counselor on a walk-in basis every day, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Ransom Hall, Suite 303. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do - for yourself and for those who care about you.

**LIBRARIAN TO CONTACT**

The Social Sciences/Social Work Resource Librarian is Brooke Troutman. Her office is in the campus Central Library. She may also be contacted via E-mail: brooke.troutman@uta.edu or by phone: (817)272-5352 below are some commonly used resources needed by students in online or technology supported courses: [http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php](http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php)

The following is a list, with links, of commonly used library resources:
Library Home Page...................... [http://www.uta.edu/library](http://www.uta.edu/library)
Subject Guides......................... [http://libguides.uta.edu](http://libguides.uta.edu)
Subject Librarians....................... [http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
Course Reserves......................... [http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do](http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do)
Library Tutorials ....................... [http://library.uta.edu/how-to](http://library.uta.edu/how-to)
Connecting from Off- Campus......... [http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus](http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus)
Ask a Librarian........................ [http://ask.uta.edu](http://ask.uta.edu)

**EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES**

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exits, which are the stairwells located at either end of the adjacent hallway. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**DROP POLICY**

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment
of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://www.uta.edu/aa/fao/).

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

TITLE IX POLICY

The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Michelle Willbanks, Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-4585 or titleix@uta.edu

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.
I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/. Faculty are encouraged to discuss plagiarism and share the following library tutorials http://libguides.uta.edu/copyright/plagiarism and http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

CAMPUS CARRY

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

FINAL REVIEW WEEK

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of
this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.
References


