

**PSYCHOLOGY STATISTICS LAB**  
**Weber State University**  
**Psychology 3810, Fall 2010**  
**Class Times: Tuesdays 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Professor:** Azenett A. Garza, Ph.D.  
**Office & Office Hours:** SS 328D – By appointment mainly, but will be around Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30 p.m. – 11:00 a.m. or Tuesdays & Thursdays between 9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.  
**Contact Information:** e-mail: agarza@weber.edu  
Office #: 626-6249  
**Yourstatsportal:** Go to <http://courses.bfwpub.com/nolanessentials1e.php>  
You may purchase or register your activation there.  
**Website:** Web CT <http://online.weber.edu> will need Wildcat username and password to access.

**Text:**

- Aspelmeier, J. E. & Pierce, T. W. (2011). SPSS: A user-friendly approach for Versions 17 & 18. Worth Publishers.
- Additional class material will be downloaded by chapter through WebCT &/or Yourstatsportal.

**Learning Objectives**

1. The ability to identify the appropriate statistical procedures for many basic research questions.
2. The ability to transfer data from Excel files into SPSS.
3. The ability to manipulate files and create variables in Excel and SPSS.
4. The ability to conduct the appropriate statistical analysis using SPSS.
5. The ability to test for statistical assumptions.
6. The ability to learn how to interpret statistical analysis and their corresponding output from SPSS.
7. The ability to learn how to report and summarize statistical analysis in APA style.
8. The ability to graphically display statistical results in Excel and Powerpoint in APA style.
9. The ability to understand statistical analysis in psychological reports.

***Evaluation of Course Work***

**Attendance** Class participation and discussion will occur on a regular basis. In addition, all assignments will be given and explained during class. **You may miss 1 of these days without penalty.** Additional missed days will receive 0s. Each day of participation and assignment will be worth 5 points and **make up 20% of your grade.**

**Statistical Analysis and Graphical Presentation Homework:** There will be 12 homework assignments that will require running a statistical analysis to be covered in the lab (see outline for statistics to be covered) on SPSS, graphically displaying your results in Excel and/or Powerpoint and verbally describing the results. There will be a conceptual and an application component to each assignment. These assignments will be due at the beginning of class on their specified due dates. Due dates are listed on the class calendar. **Your two lowest grade will be dropped.** Each assignment will be worth 50 points and will **make up 80% of your grade.** Late assignments will be penalized 2 points for each date they are late (weekends count as two days, Sat. & Sun.). Late assignments are better than no assignments.

**What is the workload expectation for this course?**

In this course, in addition to the 14 hours spent in class, you should spend up to 42 hours doing "homework," which include reading the text and documents, and completing and writing your assignments. That equals 56 hours, which is the university standard in-and-out-of-class workload expectation for a one-hour course under the semester system. This is roughly equivalent to 3 hours outside of class per hour spent in class.

Student Disability Weber State University is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. Weber State University policy states that it is the responsibility of students to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary. The instructor will meet with the student and staff members of the SSD to formulate a written plan for appropriate accommodations, if required.

### **Calculation of Grades**

12 Statistics Lab Assignments	(50 pts. ea.)	80% of your grade
Attendance	(5 pts. ea.)	20% of your grade

#### Final Grade

A	94-100%	C	74-76%
A-	90-93%	C-	70-73%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	84-86%	D	64-66%
B-	80-83%	D-	60-63%
C+	77-79%	E	0-59%

Final Grades: Please note that due to the policy in which assignments are dropped in most of the categories, final grades are not “rounded up or curved”. Meaning that if you have an 89.9 in the class, you will not be rounded up to an A-, rather you will receive a B+. In the **ONLY** circumstance in which a grade will be rounded is if **ALL** assignments and exams have been completed.

**Class Attendance:** Please note that attendance will be officially taken every class and an excessive number of unexcused absences will result in a lower grade. Homework assignments and materials are given during class. Therefore, it is to the benefit of the student to attend class everyday.

Excused Absences for University-Recognized Activities. “Students who will be absent while representing the University in officially recognized University activities (sports, band, professional conferences, etc.) must notify the instructor ten days prior to absence. Students will be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations in consultation with their instructors

Class Contact: *At times it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When this happens, it is helpful to have the name and number of another student in the class you can call to answer any questions you may have about any information missed, etc. Please use the space below to write down the name, email, and phone number of at least one student in this class who you can contact:*

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### **CLASS DISRUPTIONS**

Students in this course have the right to participate in lecture sessions that are relatively free of any unnecessary noises or other distractions that could impair their ability to take good lecture notes. For this reason, all students attending class will be expected to refrain from the following:

Chronic Tardiness. Students who anticipate being late for class on a regular basis should see me at the beginning of the semester to explain why they will be late. They also should plan to sit in an area of the classroom that will lead to the least amount of class disruption when they arrive. Students who are chronically late (4 or more times) but fail to discuss the problem with me can expect to receive a final grade in the class that is one letter grade lower than is indicated by their total point accumulation in the course.

Early Departures. Students who must leave a class early should discuss their plans with me before the beginning of the class period. Students who expect to make many such departures should talk to me about their plan at the beginning of the semester. Students who depart early from class on a regular basis without permission will be penalized in the same manner as indicated for chronic tardiness.

Inappropriate Behavior. Students engaging in horseplay or disruptive, lecture-irrelevant conversations during a class period will be given up to two warnings to stop their behavior. Following the second warning, disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom after each additional incident. A petition will be submitted to the Dean's office to drop the disruptive students from the class roster after the second class dismissal. Those dropped from the roster may receive a grade of "F".

Electronic Gadgetry. Students are expected to deactivate all beepers, cellular phones, and watch alarms while class is in session. Any students who disrupts the class more than 2 times during the semester because of these devices will be asked to leave the classroom after each subsequent incident. No walkmans, ipods, or other portable headsets may be worn while class is in session. Tape recorders are permitted in lecture; however, care should be taken to not disrupt class while changing tapes.

## VISITORS AND CHILDREN

No child or adult visitors are allowed in class without prior permission.

## Academic Dishonesty

### PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

"Plagiarism" means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as a basis for, one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit or for public presentation. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, representing as one's own, without attribution, any other individual's words, phrasing, ideas, sequence of ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression. Plagiarism includes purchased or borrowed papers. If you include verbatim text in one of your homework assignments, you must quote the original source. You must put the text in quotes and give the specific citation for the questions. Consider the following hypothetical response as an example. Contrary to Plato and Descartes who assumed that knowledge and ideas are innate or inborn, Locke proposed that the mind is a "blank slate...on which experience writes" (Meyers, 2003, p. 4). This notion helped lay the foundation for empiricism, or "the view that knowledge originates in experience and that science should, therefore, rely on observation and experimentation" (Meyers, 2003, p. 4).

Plagiarism on a homework, class assignment, or exam will be dealt with in a strict fashion, including receiving a **zero for the assignment** and at the instructor's discretion **may result in a grade of zero for the entire course and possibly a hearing before the Dean of Students**; therefore, it could have serious implications for your academic career (e.g., academic probation, suspension, or expulsion). Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements (including plagiarism) that constitute cheating: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

### **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

Students who believe that a poor grade in this course may lead to their dismissal from Weber State University should talk to me as soon as possible about strategies to improve their class performance. Seeing me at the end of the semester will not be helpful since the semester will be over and extra-credit projects are not to be available in this course.

Students who do not perform well on the first couple of assignments should come and see me immediately to determine ways in which to help improve your scores for the rest of the course. Coming to see me because you are unhappy with your grade at the end of the semester will be of no avail.

### **This Syllabus:**

This syllabus is our contract. It details your obligations to me, and mine to you. **By continuing in the course after receiving the syllabus, you are consenting to the regulations set forth by the syllabus and to be evaluated accordingly!!!**

Aug. 24 (T)	<i>Syllabus ~ Citrix</i>	
Aug. 31 (T)	<i>Navigating SPSS &amp; excel</i>	Chapters 1 & 2 <b>HW #1 due</b>
Sep. 7 (T)	<i>Graphing Excel &amp; Powerpoint</i>	Chapter 3 & 4 <b>HW #2 due</b>
Sep. 14 (T)	<i>Central Tendency &amp; Variability</i>	Chapter 5 <b>HW # 3 due</b>
Sep. 21 (T)	<b>Review</b>	
Sep. 28 (T)	<i>Z-test</i>	Chapter 6 <b>HW#4 due</b>
Oct. 5 (T)	<i>Dependent &amp; independent t-tests</i>	Chapter 7 <b>HW #5 due</b>
Oct. 12 (T)	<i>Between and Within ANOVAs</i>	Chapter 8 & 10 <b>HW #6 due</b>
Oct. 19 (T)	<b>Review</b>	
Oct. 26 (T)	<i>Factorial ANOVA</i>	Chapter 9 <b>HW #7 due</b>
Nov. 2 (T)	<i>Mixed ANOVA</i>	<b>HW#8 due</b>
Nov. 9 (T)	<i>Correlation</i>	Chapter 11 <b>HW #9 due</b>
Nov. 16 (T)	<i>Bivariate &amp; Multiple Regression</i>	Chapter 12 <b>Homework #10 due</b>
Nov. 23 (T)	<i>Chi-Square</i>	Chapter 13 <b>Homework #11 due</b>
Nov. 30 (T)	<b>Review</b>	
Dec. 7 (T)		<b>Homework # 12 due</b>

**NOTE:** This schedule is very likely to change as necessary and it is your duty to attend class to learn about the changes.

## How can I be successful in this course?

- ▶ **Set up a study schedule, study regularly and keep up.** Do not put off studying until the last moment. It will be more difficult to keep up with the class lecture and assignments if you have not looked over the material in your text beforehand. If you are currently taking statistics, the material covered in the lab may not exactly match the timing or the topic being covered in your statistics class. If you have taken statistics before, you will need some time to refresh your memory on the statistics being covered. If you haven't taken statistics before, you will surely need to read before hand to be able to keep up with the lecture. Also be sure to allow for study breaks and only study for the amount of time in which you can be alert and awake. You should find a place to study in which there is minimum distractions. Reward yourself with small rewards every time you study to keep you motivated.
- ▶ **Ask questions and participate in class.** Do not be afraid to ask questions of the instructor. More than likely, other students in the class have the same questions and concerns. If you can, try to ask a specific/direct question rather than a very general one (e.g., "What is the difference between an interval vs. ratio scale?" vs. "I don't get Chapter 1."). This course is designed for true participation. Please respect your colleagues and be open to perspectives different from your own. You should expect the same respect from all others in the class.
- ▶ **Keep up on the homework.** These are not just busy work; they will help you learn and master the material.
- ▶ **Read the book.** The textbook may explain something in a slightly different way than the instructor; something that was unclear in class may become clear as you read the text. Read intelligently- a good guideline is to begin examining the chapter by skimming the titles and headings so that you will have an idea about what the chapter will cover. Create questions from the headings that the subsequent material will answer. Then read each paragraph and summarize it in your own words by answering the question posed. If possible, add any personal examples (from your own or friends life, or newspapers, etc) that illustrate the concepts being discussed or devise mnemonics to remember the information being covered. Read the chapter once more. Next, go through each question that you created and see if you can answer the question out loud in your own words. Do not move to the next section until you have mastered that material.
- ▶ **Integrate notes from book and lecture.** After every lecture, be sure you go over your notes, fill in any gaps in your notes. Be sure to look and highlight or note information that is not covered in your text and be sure you understand it, if not ask for clarification during the next class or e-mail me with your questions, or you can post your queries on the class discussion board for your classmates to help. Create your own outline integrating your text and lecture notes, so that the organization of the material fits your perception and understanding of the material. The more detailed notes you take now, the easier it will be to remember information when taking Research Methods or in the future when you need to utilize the information learned. **Short on time?** Write questions and summaries in the margins of your text and lecture notes as you read them.
- ▶ **Study and working with someone else.** Studying and working with someone else or with a group is usually helpful; try to secure a study partner or a study group. Oftentimes one student's knowledge can complement another student's knowledge from the class. Many times a peer can explain things better than the text or the instructor. Ask each other questions and practice explaining concepts to each other. Be sure to ask for examples of concepts and application of the concepts. When working together, however, be sure to not copy from each other. You may work on the homework together, but everyone is still responsible for completing their own work. Be aware of plagiarism or it may result in a 0 for

the assignment or worse, a 0 on the entire course.

- ▶ **Don't skip class.** A missed class in statistics is often very detrimental to your grade. Statistics is very cumulative, so that if you miss a class, usually the missed material must be mastered before new material can be learned. There will be class exercises and homework assignments that if you miss due to absence, they will decrease your grade and will likely decrease your understanding of the material covered. So, if you miss class and don't get another student's notes, you are likely to be lost in the next class. Everyone has a million and one things to do.....we all have busy lives. You will need to prioritize time for this class in order to do well.
- ▶ **Learn from your mistakes.** Take a look at the missed questions on your homework and find out why you missed the questions you did. Did you not come to class? Did you not read the book? If you find out what went wrong, you can often correct it.

**Start your studying and organization of information on the FIRST day!!!**

### **Grade Record**

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on all of your work. This will help insure that you are always aware of you academic progress in this class.

Please note the dates of any absences you have had- you are allowed 3 absences without penalty:

### **Pre-lecture & Mastery Quizzes**

Attendance #1      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #2      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #3      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #4      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #5      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #6      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #7      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #8      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #9      \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #10     \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #11     \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #12     \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #13     \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Attendance #14     \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Note ~ you may have one absence without penalty.**

Home work #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #8 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #10 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #11 \_\_\_\_\_  
Home work #12 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Note ~ you may drop 2 homework assignments without penalty.**