

Psychology 3600
Statistics
Spring 2009
TR 11:30 – 12:45 AM
SS 378

Professor's Name: Dr. Matthew Schmolesky
Professor's e-mail: MSCHMOLESKY@WEBER.EDU
**(This is BY FAR the best way to contact me)
Professor's Office Phone: 801-626-8745
Office Hours: TR: 2:15-3:00; also by appointment
Office Location: SS 356
Class Web Site: <http://www.online.weber.edu/>

I. Required Materials

- A. Textbook: Pyrczak, F. (2009). *Success at Statistics: A Workbook with Humor*. (4th ed). Los Angeles, CA: Pyrczak Publishing.
- B. Textbook: Holcomb, Z.C. (2009). *SPSS Basics*. (2nd ed). Los Angeles, CA: Pyrczak Publishing.
- C. Calculator capable of doing basic math functions and square root functions
- D. USB Memory Stick (at least 256 MB in size)

II. Web CT – the Course Website

You are required to become familiar with and use the course website via WebCT: <https://www.online.weber.edu/> I will post documents on this site (e.g. copy of syllabus, powerpoint files, grades, etc.) and will occasionally email students with announcements. For technical issues (e.g. having difficulties accessing WebCT or downloading a document) contact computer support by: a) calling 626-7777, or b) emailing csupport@weber.edu, or, c) go to Lampros Hall and ask for assistance. I do not have answers to questions on WebCT technical issues.

III. Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Compute measures of variability, measures of central tendency, the product-moment correlation coefficient, a linear regression equation, and inferential statistics from an appropriate set of scores.
- B. Identify and define statistical terms and concepts
- C. State the advantages and disadvantages of the different measures of variability and central tendency.
- D. Given the data set, select the appropriate statistical test, use hypothesis testing to determine statistical significance and reach appropriate conclusions.
- E. Use the SPSS statistical package or a calculator and a formula to solve z-test, t-test, ANOVA, correlation, regression, and descriptive statistic problems.

IV. Course Grade

A. Examinations

Four examinations will be given during the semester (each will make up 20% of your grade). Each exam will be comprised of an open-note computational test and a closed-note concept test. Each portion of the exam (concept and computation) is worth 50% of that exam grade.

Computational Exam: For the open-note computational exam, you may have one 8 1/2" by 11" piece of paper with notes (2-sided) to help you take this exam (as well as a standard calculator). This portion will be taken in class.

Conceptual Exam: You may NOT use notes for the concept portion of the exam which will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center. Please note the testing center hours listed on the web site (currently listed as: 7:30am to 8pm Monday to Thursday, 7:30am-4:30pm Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday). **YOU MUST ARRIVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR** before the testing center closes or they will not permit you to take the exam. You must have your student ID and 10 cents for the scantron to take the exam. You have 2 days to take the concept portion of the exam.

A. comprehensive final exam (worth 20% of your grade) will be given April 23rd and due April 30th. This exam will be a take-home exam. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped, so after the first 4 exams, if you have an A, you do not need to take the final exam.

B. Make-up Examinations/Missing Exams

You may take an exam early (at no penalty!) if you have a conflict with the exam schedule. If you do need to take an early exam, you must notify me in writing at least one week prior to when you need to take the exam. No exams may be made up if missed, so please make sure you do not miss an exam. **Again, if you miss an exam, the grade for that exam is a ZERO; there will be no opportunities to take it late.** Remember that you may take any exam early, if you have a conflict. Again, please make sure you note the testing center hours so that you do not miss an exam. It is your responsibility to know the current hours available.

C. Homework Assignments

Four homework assignments will be given during the semester. Each homework assignment is to be done individually. See class outline for due dates of homework assignments. Each homework assignment is worth 5% of your final grade. **That means that all homework assignments combined equal one exam grade.** You will have assignments in addition to the homework assignments, but they will not be graded. These other assignments (but not the homework assignments) may be done with other members of the class or with the professor's help.

D. Computer Labs

Four computer lab sessions are scheduled during the semester, and will be held in Social Sciences Rm 005 (in the basement, across from the Testing Center). We will be working with the computers much more than during these four sessions, but you are required to attend these four specific computer lab sessions. You are responsible for the information presented within these sessions, and your homework assignments and exams will reflect the material learned. Please make sure to attend! Your computer labs will be turned in with the homework assignments and included as part of your homework grade.

E. Extra Credit Opportunities

Each exam will have an extra credit opportunity included with the questions. These are questions that require you to integrate information and go above and beyond what you normally would learn for the exam. You may earn up to 4 percentage points for each exam through the exam extra credit.

F. Grading Scale

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

V. Course Outline:

<u>CLASS DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (pgs)</u>
January 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, Feb. 3	Introduction to Descriptive Statistics	SaS Part E Supplement, sections 1-11
January 22	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 1-6
January 27	Homework 1 due	
February 3	Exam 1 Computation (in class)	~~WORTH 50 Points
February 3-4	Exam 1 Concept (in testing center)	~~WORTH 50 Points
Feb. 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, March 3	Descriptive Statistics Continued	SaS sections 12-25
February 19	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 7, 9, 10

February 24	Homework 2 due	
March 3	Exam 2 Computation (in class)	~~WORTH 50 Points
March 3-4	Exam 2 Concept (in testing center)	~~WORTH 50 Points
March 5, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, April 2, 7	Introduction to Inferential Statistics	SaS sections 27-40
March 26	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 8, 11, 12, 13
March 31	Homework 3 due	
April 7	Exam 3 Computation (in class)	~~WORTH 50 Points
April 7-8	Exam 3 Concept (in testing center)	~~WORTH 50 Points
April 9, 14, 16, 21, 23	Inferential Statistics Continued	SaS sections 41-48
April 16	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics, Chapter 14
April 21	Homework 4 due	
April 23	Exam 4 Computation (in class)	~~WORTH 50 Points
April 23-24	Exam 4 Concept (in testing center)	~~WORTH 50 Points
April 25-30	Take Home Final Exam Comprehensive	~~WORTH 100 points

NO CLASSES: January 19, February 16, March 9-13

VI. Additional Information

A. Attendance

Attendance is not required for this class but is **STRONGLY** encouraged and will be monitored. Anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or online resources. Thus, it is in everyone's best interest to attend. ****IF** you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint on WebCT, and/or you may get notes from a classmate. **DO NOT not email me or come to my office to ask what you missed.** It is your responsibility to attend class or, if you cannot, contact a classmate to catch up. Please **DO** email me or come to my office for any other purpose if you think I can be of help.

B. Class Contact

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have the name and number of another student in class that you can contact. Please use the

space below to write down the name, email, and phone number of at least two students in this class. AND you can use WebCT to email anyone in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CLASSMATES:

_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email
_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email

C. Class Courtesy

This is a large class, so please be courteous of others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Do not make a habit of arriving late or leaving early as many (including me) find it very distracting. The following behaviors are rude when they take place during class time: a) holding private conversations, b) sleeping, c) reading other material, or d) doing other work. Drinking (but not eating) in class is permitted, so long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. ****POLICY FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES: ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE TO BE OFF AND OUT OF SIGHT/REACH DURING CLASS AND TESTS.** Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class. **Students repeatedly engaging in rude behavior will be counseled to drop the course.**

D. Grade Appeals

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of **your** exam, please do not ask about this during class. Write/type down on a sheet of paper what your questions are, provide reference to notes in class or specific pages from the book, and turn in these questions to the instructor at the end of the class period. You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within one week. You may also do this with writing assignments. **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY** that your concerns will be addressed. **ONLY** written questions and comments **THAT YOU SUPPORT** will be evaluated.

E. Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating

I encourage students to work and study together whenever possible. **However, students must hand in their own work.** Whenever you try to pass off someone's work that is not your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on ANY assignment (even extra credit), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the course**. Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a very detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the **PLAGIARISM** description. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. ANY plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a

failing grade in the course. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating:

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

F. Students with Disabilities

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must 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.

G. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

VII. Testing Center Hours

All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center, located in the basement of the Social Sciences building (SS 036). In order to take an exam, you must show up on the correct date at the appropriate times (NOTE: you must arrive at least one hour before closing) with a form of picture ID and 10 cents for the scantron. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a picture ID or if you show up after hours. Please see the Social Science Testing Center hours listed at: <http://departments.weber.edu/testingcenter/hours.htm>

VIII. Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each assignment. You may also access your grades using the MY GRADES tool on WebCT. Grades are updated within 1 week of the end of every exam.

NOTE: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. I am committed to following the syllabus but there is no guarantee that I will. Altering the syllabus may also mean changing the nature or timing of exams/assignments. **By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.** March 6 is the last day to drop with a W.