

## Psychology 3600: Statistics

Spring 2010  
MWF 10:30 – 11:20 AM  
SS 317

**To do well in this course:** work consistently every day. Do not procrastinate.

**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:** MWF: 1:00-2:00 PM; 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: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and square root functions (but not complex statistics)
- 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](mailto: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 (worth 60% of final course grade)

1. Four regular exams will be taken during the course of this semester. Each exam is non-comprehensive and constitutes 15% of your final grade. Each exam will include computational and conceptual sections.
2. **A comprehensive final exam** (worth 15% of your grade) will be given April 17<sup>th</sup> and due April 22nd. 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.
3. All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center (SS 036). You will have 2 days to take each exam. Optional review sessions will be held on exam days, so you have scheduled time to take the exams. 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.

##### B. Make-up Examinations/Missing Exams

If you know of a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take ANY exam early but **must notify me in writing of your intention to do so as early as possible**. IF FOR ANY REASON YOU MISS AN EXAM you must notify me in writing immediately. You may take the exam one day late (for a 10 point deduction) or two days late (for a 20 point deduction). You will not be able to take an exam three or more “business days” (i.e. days the testing center is open, Mon.-Sat.) after the scheduled dates and will receive a zero for this exam.

##### C. Homework Assignments (worth 40% of final course grade)

Four homework assignments (posted on WebCT) 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 10% of your final grade. Discussing a problem or how one might solve it with a classmate or me is encouraged; simply giving answers is considered a violation of student ethics and could result in a zero for the course. As the British say, “mind the gap.” **Note: late homework assignments will not be accepted and will receive a zero.** Be sure to work ahead of time: *do not procrastinate*.

##### 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 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29	Introduction to Descriptive Statistics	SaS Part E Supplement, sections 1-11
January 20	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 1-6
January 25	Homework 1 due	
<b>January 29-30</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
Feb. 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26	Descriptive Statistics Continued	SaS sections 13-25
February 12	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 7, 9, 10
February 22	Homework 2 due	
<b>February 26-27</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
March 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 22, 24, 26, 29	Introduction to Inferential Statistics	SaS sections 27-40

March 10	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics Chapters 8, 11, 12, 13
March 24	Homework 3 due	
<b>March 29-30</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
March 31, April 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16	Inferential Statistics Continued	SaS sections 41-49
April 7	Computer Lab (Rm 005)	SPSS Basics, Chapter 14
April 12	Homework 4 due	
<b>April 16</b>	<b>Exam 4</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 Points</b>
<b>April 17th-22nd</b>	<b>Take Home Final Exam Comprehensive</b>	<b>~~WORTH 100 points</b>

**NO CLASSES: January 18, February 15, March 15-19**

## 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 (e.g. to help you understand material you have already worked through and studied) if you think I can be of help. You can also get help from the freely offered Psychology Tutor (go to Room 370 for info on tutors).

### 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

There are many people in this 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 23 is the last day to drop with a W.