SOC 576-- DATA ANALYSIS IN SOCIAL RESEARCH
SECTION 01W-- CRN # 27209
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2024

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COURSE INFORMATION

Lectures (Web-Based Class with YouTube & Zoom & VoiceThread):   Meets 1/29/2024 through 5/10/2024

This syllabus is intended to help you clearly understand the course goals, expectations, testing methods and topics we are going through so you may maximize your performance. It should also help you to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings that will affect your grade adversely.

Course Description

Students are exposed to basic techniques of data analysis in social research, particularly by use of computers. Special attention is given to tabulation, statistical testing, and interpretation of data. Analysis of variance, multiple regression, dummy variable regression, path analysis and related topics will be covered with computer application for problem solving. Three semester hours.

Text
- Frankfort-Nachmias: *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society* 7e + SPSS Version 22.0: Paperback – August 2, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-1483375380 ISBN-10: 1483375382 Edition: 7 Pck Pap/ (Required).
- Jiaming Sun. *Global Connectivity and Local Transformation*. University Press of America. ISBN 0-7618-4008-7 (Optional).
- Additional materials will be posted in the course website.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

This course provides an advanced statistics for students who have completed basic descriptive and inferential statistics courses at undergraduate level. This course emphasizes procedures that are especially appropriate for social science data analysis and for completion of your

research proposal designed in your SOC 575 course. The main goals of the course are:

- To review basic statistical symbols and be able to think graphically based on statistic data;
- To enhance understanding about key concepts in statistics in sociological literature that employs data analysis;
- To acquire the ability to use appropriate statistical techniques to answer research questions;
- To learn how to organize, analyze and present statistical data for research papers, particularly for your master thesis;

- The course also provides an introduction to using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) to set up data files, manipulate variables and run statistical programs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

As per the university rule, students taking one course with three credit-hours are expected to spend six hours in each week on studying lecture online, watching videos clips, reading chapters, doing assignments, and preparing quizzes and exams.

Attendance and Participation This is an online class therefore attendance is flexible! You are required to access D2L while you have time to participate various activities. Your regular participation activities, including the time spent online lessons, short videos and virtual discussions will be checked. You are strongly encouraged to log into the course several times a week to avoid losing ONLINE ACTIVITY (or USER ACTIVITY) points.

There will be several points for ONLINE ACTIVITY. The points will not give to those who have less than minimum or zero minute of usage online in a week. Excessive "absence" in online activities may result in a further loss of points from your overall performance points. It can mean a difference of a final letter grade as well. So take it seriously.

Assign/Quiz There will be some exercises in this course. Doing these exercises helps understanding class material and preparing the exams. Assignments are due on specific dates, as assigned. You will have plenty of notification sent by email. If you know you are going to be out of town and unable to access a computer, plan ahead. Late submission will cause a minimum 20% deduction of penalty for the first week, and then additional 10% each subsequent week late (up to 50 % deduction). No late submission will be accepted by the day and after taking the exams.

There is 1 more attempt after the due date of the quiz is over will be allowed. However, your final score on this quiz will be the score of "the highest one of your attempts".

Exams   There will be a term exam during the semester. Students may use the text and/or one sheet of compact set of notes arranged in convenient reference form (suggested). Students will be provided with study guide prior to the exam. There is 1 more attempt after the due date of the exam is over will be allowed. However, your final score on this quiz will be the score of the "average of your attempts".

Before the end of the semester, a written report is required to submit which s is based on your work on data process with the results of data analysis and conclusion in length about 16-20 pages including tables, charts" (the examples of a research report have been posted on D2L).

Grading Policy

SPSS Practice	80
Chapter Exercises	100
Quizzes	100
Term Exam	100
A Report of Data Analysis	100
Overall Performance	20
Total	500

Overall performance points (20 points) based primarily on student performance over the semester, but not just based on a ranking percentile. (See the detail at Stimulative Grading Scheme in D2L).

Final grades will be assigned on the following aspects and scale:

A: Truly exceptional and outstanding work. (450-500)
B: Solid, acceptable graduate-level work. (400-449)
B-: Near acceptable level for graduate work. (350-399)
C: Not acceptable level for graduate work. (300-349)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT
If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.
Technical Support
If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:
https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.

http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more

details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)

document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Email Correspondence

In this course, email is an essential corresponding method and a supplement to lectures. This means that you can expect to hear from the instructor via emails regularly throughout the semester, such as using email for reminders, clarifications, last-minute notifications, etc. Needless to say, students are expected to check email regularly in daily fashion (a couple of times a day). Conversely, you should feel free to contact the instructor via email with questions, requests or problems that might not be addressed clearly in online lessons.

You may access to your email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from D2L (and all other the university's emails) will go to this account. Conversely, you are to email me via the D2L email system or your myLeo email since the university spam filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and usually the emails in spam won't be checked. Email sent to the instructor should be with a subject to "SOC 1301".

HOWEVER in order to avoid duplication of questions and answers, please post all class related questions in the Virtual Office. This will be our Q&A forum. It is likely that your peers will have the same question. Emails of a personal nature or for a bonus point should be sent individually to the instructor's email address via D2L.

If you are having problems in class, please contact the instructor immediately. Please understand that you should not contact the instructor only at the end of the semester being unhappy with your grade, asking for a way to change it.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The course schedule is tentative and somewhat subject to change. Although this course will follow the schedule, it is possible that some adjustments will be made as we progress through the semester.

Wk	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	Jan. 29-	Syllabus test. Math diagnosis. SPSS software and GSS data sets.	
2	Feb. 5-	Review basic statistics (in PPT).	Ch. 1 in textbook
3	Feb. 12-	Measures of central Tendency and Variability (in PPT). SPSS practice.	Ch. 4, 5 in textbook
4	Feb. 19-	Normal Distribution (in PPT), SPSS practice.	Ch. 6 in textbook
5	Feb. 26-	Sampling and Sampling Distribution (in PPT)	Ch. 7 in textbook
6	Mar. 4-	Statistical inference: Estimation (in PPT). SPSS practice	Ch. 8 in textbook
7	Mar. 11-15	**Spring Break**	Ch. 9 in textbook
8	Mar. 18-	Significant tests (in PPT), SPSS practice.	Ch. 10 in textbook
9	Mar. 25-	Cross-Tabulation (in PPT), SPSS practice.	Ch. 11 in textbook
10	Apr. 1-	Chi-Square Test (in PPT), SPSS practice.	Ch. 12 in textbook
11	Apr. 8-	Measures of Association for Nominal and Ordinal Variables (in PPT). SPSS practice.	Ch. 13 in textbook (Ch. 12, optional)
12	Apr. 15-	Linear regression and correlation (in PPT). SPSS practice. (Analysis of Variance, optional)	Ch.1 -13 in textbook
13	Apr. 22-	Review ***Term Exam ***	
14	Apr29-	Q/A for Writing Report of Data Analysis	
15	May 6-10	Writing Report of Data Analysis	