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**SOCL 203**

**Social Statistics**

**Lecture**: Computer Lab E Building

Instructor: Dr. Sara Rizvi Jafree;

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Office Hours: **MWF** 11:00-1:00pm; Room E123;

**TTh** 4-5pm (upon email coordination)

Prerequisite: None

Credit Hours: 03

**Course Description**

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| This course will provide an introduction of statistical concepts and methods to students majoring in the social sciences, enabling them to investigate social issues and discover empirical evidence through statistics. The course provides students with the expertise and tools to conduct research quantitatively, from the stage of planning of data analysis to data presentation. Different statistical tools and techniques will be covered including parametric and non-parametric tests. Classes will mainly be held in computer labs in order to do practical exercises using the statistical software SPSS. Students will become familiar with generating descriptive statistics, tests of association and significance, and regression tests. |

**Student Learning Objectives**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the different types of data and measurement
2. Calculate and interpret tests for sociological/social science inquiry
3. Determine statistical patterns, generalizability of results and strengths of association
4. Use a statistical software to plan and execute their own quantitative research

**Course requirements**

Classes will be conducted in an interactive method with a learning environment aimed to invite discourse and discussion. Students must be prepared for pre-reading before classes and for surprise quizzes. This will be a paperless course and all presentations, course book, supplementary reading material will be uploaded on FCCU Moodle.

**Attendance**- 10% of the final grade reserved for overall attendance. Above 80% attendance is mandatory for eligibility to give the final exam. After three consecutive absences a formal application (email) is required to continue with the course.

**Quizzes and Essay Assignments-** 10% of the final grade will be reserved for quizzes and essay assignments. A week’s time will be given to students for preparation of both.

**Class Debates and Note-taking**- 5% of the final grade will be reserved for class debates and note-taking. Class debates will take place after each topic has been covered and it is expected that students will be taking notes in each class.

**Community Service Activity and Group Presentation-** 10% of the final grade will be allocated based on the community service activity and/or group presentation. Students will be allocated to a group, which will choose a community problem and then develop ideas for improvement and intervention based on research. Though a community service field trip will be planned, involving research and an intervention, the external visit may not always be possible due to unexpected holidays and safety or permission issues. In which case, the community service activity will involve only group research and a group presentation.

**Midterm and Final Exams**- 20% and 30% of the final grade will be reserved respectively for the midterm and final exams. The written examination will include a compulsory section with 5 short questions (Section A) and an essay section, requiring one essay to be answered only, with options from each topic covered (Section B). This however may be changed based on online mode of instruction to support students with a more convenient and fair assessment, e.g. an open book viva and/ or submission of an essay exam from home.

**Final Course Paper**- 20% of the final grade will be reserved for a compulsory course paper submission. Each student will have to submit an independent paper before the final exam for this course. This final course paper will consist of choosing a research question, designing a quantitative survey, collecting data in-class, analyzing results and writing a report.

The final paper will be uploaded by each student on Moodle. Turnitin will be used to identify a similarity index.

**Final Course Paper Presentations**- 10% of the final grade will be reserved for class presentations. Presentations will be of the final course paper in power point. The week for presentations will be 2 weeks before the final exam. These presentations aim to develop student communication skills and also prepare them for healthy feedback and incorporation of improvements in their final submission.

**A summary of the breakdown of the final grade is as follows:**

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| --- | --- |
| Item | Grade Percentage |
| Attendance | 10% |
| 4 Quizzes | 5% |
| 3 Written assignments | 5% |
| Class Debate | 2% |
| Note-taking | 3% |
| Community Service Activity/ Group Presentation | 10% |
| Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Final Course Paper (E Submission on Moodle Turnitin) | 10% |
| Presentation of Course Paper | 5% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
|  | ***100%*** |

**Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy**

Students must write their assignments in their own words after a careful academic literature review. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge this by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing through APA citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence and for the Department of Sociology FCCU, it is defined as:

“Plagiarism, or literary theft, is defined as appropriating the literary composition of another person, including parts, passages, or language of the writing, and passing off the appropriate material as one’s own. Plagiarism is the failure to give proper credit or citation to one’s sources of information. It includes the failure to use conventional methods of documentation for material quoted or paraphrased. Additionally, plagiarism includes allowing someone else to compose or rewrite an assignment for a student.”

***Please refer to university policy for more information. If plagiarism is observed disciplinary action will be taken.***

**Essay Guidelines (APA formatting)**

One class will be dedicated and material will be uploaded on Moodle for guidance on:

- Conducting an academic literature review

- Avoiding plagiarism

- Following APA guidelines for formatting of paper, in-text citation and end of paper referencing

All essays submitted from home and the final course paper must follow APA standards of academic writing and include academic references. For a quick guide to APA formatting, please visit: <http://www.lib.usm.edu/index.php?id=81>

Templates will be provided (on Moodle) to students for:

- Undergraduate Academic Essays

- Literature Review

- Final Course Paper

**Policies for Assignment Deadlines, Absences for Quizzes/ Exams, &**

Students must submit all their work on the given time. A mandatory written explanation is needed for acceptance of late submission or request for repeat quizzes/ exams.

Students are responsible for staying up to date with all assignments and lectures. As all material will be uploaded on Moodle, students are accepted to catch up on their own when they are absent for a class and also to visit the instructor during office hours for assistance as early as possible.

Students are also expected to spend time for study of this course outside class equivalent to the in-class time.

**Text and Course Readings:**

The following E-books will be assigned for reading:

1. SPSS for Social Scientists, Robert L. Miller, Ciaran Acton, Deirdre A. Fullerton and John Maltby

2. A handbook of statistical analyses using SPSS, Sabine, Landau, Brian S. Everitt

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**Weekly Course Coverage-**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week/**  **Topic** | **Reading** | **Broad Coverage** |
| Week 1 |  |  |
| Class Orientation:  Introduction to Quantitative Research | Chapter 1 (Miller) |  |
| Week 2-3 |  |  |
| Survey development & entering the data into SPSS | Chapter 2 (Miller) | Levels of measurement  Measures of central tendency  Measures of dispersion  Running Basic Frequencies |
| Week 4-5 |  |  |
| Hypothesis Testing & T-Tests | Chapter 4 (Miller) | Confirmatory statistics  Independent-Samples t-test  Paired-samples t-test  SPSS t-test exercise |
| Week 6-7 |  |  |
| Cross tabulation | Chapter 5 (Miller) | The Chi-square test  Measures of association  For nominal variables/ ordinal variables |
| Week 8-9 |  |  |
| Analysis of variance (ANOVA) | Chapter 6 (Miller) | Simple ANOVA using SPSS  Two-way ANOVA |
| Week 10-11 |  |  |
| Correlation & Regression | Chapter 7 (Miller) | Pearson’s product-moment correlation coefficient  Simple Linear Regression  Multiple Regression |
| Week 12-13 |  |  |
| Factor Analysis | Chapter 8 (Miller) | Extraction  Rotation  Other considerations  Factor analysis exercises |
| Week 14 |  |  |
| Drafting our own small quantitative study (with research questions and hypothesis) |  | Preparing a quantitative questionnaire, collecting data within class  Generating results and writing them/ entering data in tables (APA style)  Submitting final course paper |
| Week 15-16 |  |  |
| Presentations and Revision | -PowerPoint Presentations for **course paper**  -Final submission of **course paper**  ***-Revision and Q&A session for finals*** |  |
| **Final Exams** | | |

FCCU faculty and the courses you study are committed to promoting FCCU essential core values, which exemplify the FCCU motto, “By love, serve one another.” You are advised to read the core values (1. Integrity; 2. Excellence; 3. Respect; 4. Discipline & Accountability; 5. Fairness and Justice; 6. Service; and 7. Community) and other rules and policies of your university in detail for strict adherence:

<https://www.fccollege.edu.pk/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Final-intermediate-handbook-2012-1.pdf>