

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2013
SYLLABUS

Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs			
SOCI 3280D 090: Quantitative Research Methods 3Hrs			
Department of	Criminal Justice	Division of	Business & Public Leadership
Instructor Name:	<i>Dr. Aaron Bartula</i>		
Office Location:	<i>DAL 2 #307</i>		
Office Phone:	<i>972-780-3629</i>		
Email Address:	<i>Aaron.Bartula@unt.edu</i>		
Office Hours:	MT 1-5pm; W 10am-1pm / 4pm-6pm; TH 10am-12:30pm or by appointment		
Virtual Office Hours:	<i>Anytime via email, usually will respond within 24 hours</i>		
Classroom Location:	<i>DAL 2 #338</i>		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	W 7pm – 9:50pm		
Course Catalog Description:	This course prepares students in the application of quantitative research methodology and statistical analysis in sociology and other social science disciplines. Examples using real research data will be provided to facilitate understanding and application of various quantitative and qualitative processes.		
Prerequisites:	SOCI 3220 Qualitative Data Collection		
Co-requisites:	None required, although an understanding of college algebra is essential		
Required Text:	Levin, Fox, and Forde. (2010). <i>Elementary Statistics in Social Research</i>, 11th edition, Allyn, Bacon, & Longman.		
Recommended Text and References:	This is an intensive course. Students in this class are highly encouraged to acquire a calculator with basic algebraic functions.		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhq.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	The goal of this course is to introduce quantitative analysis techniques and how they are applied in social science research.		
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will			
1	Be able to explain and differentiate the concepts of sample and population.		
2	Understand and apply concepts of probability.		
3	Formulate hypotheses that require the use of quantitative research methodology.		
4	Identify the appropriate quantitative tools based on the research question.		
5	Demonstrate the ability to apply statistical models to real world research questions.		
6	Demonstrate the ability to compute and interpret statistical data in context.		
7	Demonstrate the ability to connect statistical findings to population and draw inference.		

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor either in class or via email.

TOPICS	TIMELINE
Syllabus, Introduction; Choosing the right program for you	8/28/2013
Organizing the Data	9/4/2013
Measures of Central Tendency; LAB (Building 1 #201D 8-9:30pm)	9/11/2013
Measures of Variability	9/18/2013
EXAM 1	9/25/2013
Probability and the Normal Curve	10/2/2013
Samples and Populations	10/9/2013
Testing Differences Between Means; LAB (Building 1 #201D 8-9:30pm)	10/16/2013
Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)	10/23/2013
EXAM 2	10/30/2013
Non-Parametric Tests	11/6/2013
Correlation	11/13/2013
Library Day	11/20/2013
<i>NO CLASS!! Thanksgiving Holiday</i>	11/27/2013
Regression Analysis (OLS) and Logistic Regression (LOGIT); LAB (Building 1 #201D 8-9:30pm)	12/4/2013
EXAM 3	12/11/2013

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams – *written tests designed to measure knowledge and application of presented course material.*

Assignments – *Weekly problem sets to measure students' knowledge and understanding of the course material.*

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points)	Total
Exams	3 exams at 100 points each	300
Assignments	10 assignments at 10 point each	100
Total:		400

Grade Determination:

A = 400 – 360 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 359 – 320 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %

C = 319 – 280 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %

D = 279 – 240 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %

F = 239 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

No discussion about grades/points will be done through the internet or with anyone other than the student (FERPA law). Please make an appointment and I will happily discuss them or other concerns.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Exams - *Three exams will be given over the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer and calculation questions.*

Assignment – *Weekly problem sets will be assigned. Problem sets will consist of multiple choice, short answer and calculation questions.*

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). It is your responsibility to contact me during the first two weeks of class if there's anything about which I should know concerning special accommodation for any of the assignments. I will try to work out a suitable arrangement, but I must know about it during the first two weeks of class. It is also your responsibility to bring me the required documentation(s) or have the responsible parties contact me in a timely manner for any kind of special accommodation for any of the assignments.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. Further, in order to receive credit for class discussion the student must be present in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for

missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses, will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate. This course is designed to be a safe open forum so that we may critically analyze and discuss crime theories. Thus, please adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

Optional Policies:

- Use of WebCT/Blackboard: All material will be primarily distributed in class. However, the use of the Blackboard site associated with this course may be utilized if necessary.
- Use of Cell Phones, Laptops, & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom: Please turn all cell phones off/on silent before each class starts. If you need to take an emergency call please excuse yourself from the classroom. Students may use laptops to take notes during class. If students begin to exploit the use of computers I will not allow them. **If a student wants to use a recording device you must get my approval prior to use.**
- Food & Drink in the Classroom: Food and drinks are allowed during class, but if they become disruptive to the lecture/discussions, they will be disallowed.
- Grade of Incomplete, "I": Though not encouraged, incomplete grades will be granted on a case by case basis. Each student seeking such grade must come speak to me as soon as it is being considered.