THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
Department of Sociology

SOCIOLOGY 2205a – Statistics for Sociology (Section 003)

PROFESSOR: Dr. B. Gail (Frankel) Perry, Professor Emerita
Room 5319, Social Science Centre
E-mail: frankel@uwo.ca

(Please note that I will do my best to answer your e-mail enquiries within a couple of hours on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, I will check mail a couple of times, but only between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. Anything later than 5 ANY DAY may not get answered until the following day. While I do check my mail on the weekend, I don’t promise to respond right away. Send e-mail to frankel@uwo.ca ; I don’t check the Owl site everyday.)

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
or by appointment

CLASSES: Room 3028 - SSC,  Monday, 9:30 - 11:20 am
Wednesday, 9:30 - 10:20 am

(Please check the Sociology Department website (http://sociology.uwo.ca/) for class cancellations or changes)

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Michael Rooyakkers
Room 5333, Social Science Centre
E-mail: mrooyakk@uwo.ca
Office Hours: Monday 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

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General Information

Inquiry in Sociology consists of theory, research methodology and statistics. The Department of Sociology requires that all Sociology majors take Sociology 2205, the introductory course in the statistics area. In this course students will discover how one analyses the information obtained from various quantitative methodological techniques.

The course is divided into 2 major topics: descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics includes a review of elementary mathematical concepts, the construction and interpretation of tables and graphs, and the calculation of measures of central tendency and dispersion. Inferential statistics addresses the question of how well data drawn from a sample can be generalized to an entire population and examines how variables in these samples are related to one another.

While it is important to note that this course does not require a strong mathematics background, recent secondary school mathematics or a university course will be an asset. Any student who is concerned about this aspect of the course should speak to me as soon as possible. Students are expected to understand simple mathematical procedures and to own (and know how to operate) a calculator that has the capacity to perform square roots. A memory register would be useful. Complex calculators are NOT required. I suggest a fairly simple one! I would prefer that you NOT use the calculator on your phones! Calculators and text books should be brought to all statistics classes.
Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1) distinguish between descriptive and inferential statistics and identify problems related to each;
2) choose the appropriate statistical tool for a variety of research problems;
3) carry out basic statistical analyses for both descriptive and inferential problems, and interpret their results;
4) read both scientific and popular press reports of research findings more critically, identifying both good and bad analyses and interpretations;
5) understand the meaning of published research results and use those results to make informed choices and decisions; and
6) undertake further training in statistics.

Required Materials

The required text for the course is:

STATISTICS, A Tool for Social Research (2nd Canadian Edition),
ISBN-13 978-0-17-6651367

The publisher provides some resources for students at

http://www.cengage.com/cgi-wadsworth/course_products_wp.pl?fid=M20b&product_isbn_issn=0176651365&template=NELSON

Course Requirements

1. Assignments

In a course such as this, regular practise and feedback are the best ways to ensure that the student has mastered the material covered. This feedback will be accomplished, in part, through two assignments. We may or may not discuss the assignments in class, but students can always meet with the teaching assistant or with the instructor to discuss them. The assignments consist of problems that are typical of those you will find on the mid-term test and final examination.

Each assignment is worth 15 percent of your final grade, for a total of 30 percent. YOU MUST HAND IN A HARD COPY OF THE ASSIGNMENT; ANY ASSIGNMENT SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO (0).

ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS ON THE DATES NOTED IN THE DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE. LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED AT THE RATE OF 10 PERCENT OF THE ASSIGNMENT VALUE PER DAY LATE. ANY ASSIGNMENT NOT RECEIVED WITHIN 5 DAYS OF THE DUE DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED EXCEPT WITH APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION. (Please read the “Official Information” at the end of this outline for more information.)
While it is expected that students will discuss the assignments among themselves, all work submitted shall be the work of the individual student. Just as it is unacceptable to copy from published sources, copying another student's work is unacceptable! Students who plagiarize each other's work will receive a grade of zero. Students should familiarize themselves with their rights and responsibilities, as outlined in Western's Academic Calendar, including what constitutes a Scholastic Offence. See (http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

2. In-Class Quizzes

As well as regular practice, keeping up with the class is essential to success in this course. It is one sure way of determining whether you understand what is being taught. There are many practice problems at the end of each chapter, which you should do regularly. Consider them to be homework and devote at least three hours per week to it! Answers to the odd-numbered questions are provided at the end of the textbook.

In addition, there will be three quizzes held during regular class time on September 23, November 6 and November 27. These quizzes may or may not include the types of questions you can expect to find on the midterm and final exam, but are designed specifically to emphasize key points of the most recent materials we have covered. Specific topics for each quiz will be announced in class. Together, the three quizzes are worth 10 percent of your course grade.

3. Mid-term Test

There will be one mid-term test on October 21, 2013, room 2168 A and B, Elborn College. The specific materials for which you are responsible for this test will be announced in class, but will likely include all that has been covered to that point in the course. The test is worth 30 percent of your course grade. The test may contain multiple choice and short answer questions, as well as problems.

4. Final Examination

The final examination will be during the Christmas exam period. It will be THREE hours in length and MAY have multiple choice, matching and short answer questions, and WILL include major problems. Students are responsible for ALL of the materials in the course, although the emphasis on the final will be on the chapters covered after the mid-term test. The exam is worth 30 percent of the final grade.

**Distribution of Marks**

- Assignments.................30% (2 @ 15 percent each)
- Mid-term test.............30%
- In-class Quizzes.........10% (Sept. 23 - 2%; Nov. 6 - 4%; Nov. 27 - 4%)
- Final examination.........30%

**One other thing you should know about Final Grades......**

“In keeping with departmental grade guidelines, it is expected that the class average for this course will be in the range of 67 - 70 %. Should the final overall grades yield a value significantly outside of this range, grades will be adjusted to ensure an appropriate mean for the class.”

**THERE IS NO ROUTINE PROVISION FOR MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS, TESTS OR ASSIGNMENTS.**
Attendance and Classroom Environment

Regular class attendance is essential to learning at the university level, especially in a course like this one, where considerable practise of important concepts occurs in the classroom, and where each element of the course serves as a building block for what follows. I strongly encourage you to come to class regularly in order to maximize your opportunities to learn. The best learning occurs in an environment of mutual trust and respect, and that is the environment I expect in my classroom. Cheating in any form is a violation of that trust, and will not be tolerated. Chatting among yourselves is distracting to everyone and annoying to your instructor (be warned!).

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND REFRAIN FROM TEXTING DURING CLASS.

NOTE: READ ALL THE “OFFICIAL INFORMATION THAT FOLLOWS. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT

Missed Exams and Late Assignments

Official Policy Regarding Missed Exams

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the Academic Counselling office at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide documentation of the reason for missing the exam to your Academic Counsellor within 48 hours of the regularly scheduled exam. If your Academic Counsellor agrees that your reason for missing the exam is legitimate and is supported by your medical doctor’s documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam.

(see https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm)

Compassionate Grounds

Serious Illness of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a medical certificate from the family member’s physician to your home faculty’s Academic Counselling office.

In Case of a Death: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director to your home faculty’s Academic Counselling office: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca

You must demonstrate to your instructor that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Different regulations apply to term tests, final examinations and late assignments. In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination, test or assignment.

In the case of final exams, you must seek academic accommodation through the Academic Counselling Office. You require the permission of the Dean, the Instructor, and the Chair of the department to write a special final examination.

Support Services

There are many services available to students in order to help with any problems. Several are listed here and you can access others through the “current students” tab on the university’s home page.
Main campus Registrar: http://www.registrar.uwo.ca
University Students’ Council: http://www.westernusc.ca/services/
Student Development Centre: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/
Student Services: https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Note on Prerequisites and Antirequisites

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. Please check: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.
### THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
#### Department of Sociology

Sociology 2205a, section 003

Professor B. Gail (Frankel) PERRY

**DETAILED SYLLABUS**
(September - December 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9, 11, 16, 18</td>
<td>Introduction to course and course materials</td>
<td>Prologue</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Descriptive Statistics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapters 1, 2, 3</strong></td>
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<td>The Basics</td>
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<td>Measures of Central Tendency</td>
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<td>Measures of Dispersion</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>IN-CLASS QUIZ #1 – SEPTEMBER 23 – worth 2 percent</strong></td>
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<td>Sept. 23, 25</td>
<td><strong>The Normal Curve</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 4</strong></td>
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<td>Z-scores</td>
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<td>Estimation Using the Normal Curve</td>
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<td><em><strong>ASSIGNMENT NUMBER #1 AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 18</strong></em></td>
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<td><em><strong>DUE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 7 – WORTH 15 PERCENT</strong></em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 30, Oct. 2, 7, 9</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Inferential Statistics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapters 5, 6</strong></td>
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<td>The Sampling Distribution</td>
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<td>Estimation Procedures</td>
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<td>*** ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE OCTOBER 7 – 15 percent***</td>
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<td>October 14</td>
<td><strong>THANKSGIVING – no class</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>Return assignment, Review</td>
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<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td><strong>MID-TERM TEST – ALL MATERIALS TO DATE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Regular class time, room 2168 A and B Elborn College</strong></td>
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<td>The test is worth 30 percent of your final grade!!</td>
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<td><strong>THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MULTIPLE CHOICE, SHORT ANSWER AND SHORT PROBLEMS</strong></td>
<td><strong>BRING CALCULATORS!!!!</strong></td>
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<td>Oct. 23, 28, 30</td>
<td><strong>Hypothesis Testing I and II</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapters 7, 8</strong></td>
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<td>The One-sample Case</td>
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<td>The Two-sample Case</td>
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<td>Nov. 4, 6</td>
<td><strong>Hypothesis Testing IV</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chapter 10</strong></td>
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<td>Bivariate tables</td>
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<td>Chi Square</td>
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<td><em><strong>ASSIGNMENT NUMBER #2 AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 4</strong></em></td>
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<td><em><strong>DUE NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 25 – WORTH 15 PERCENT</strong></em></td>
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<td>NOVEMBER 5 – LAST DAY TO DROP THIS COURSE WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY</td>
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<td><strong>IN-CLASS QUIZ #2 – NOVEMBER 6 – worth 4 percent</strong></td>
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<td>Nov.11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27</td>
<td>Measures of Association</td>
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<td>Nominal</td>
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<td>Interval-ratio</td>
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<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Chapter 13</td>
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**** ASSIGNMENT # 2 DUE NOVEMBER 25 - 15 percent ****

IN-CLASS QUIZ #3 – NOVEMBER 27 – worth 4 percent

Dec. 2, 4

Choosing the Correct Test
REVIEW (as time permits)

* Readings are from Healey and Prus, Second Canadian Edition
** subject to minor revisions and variation in dates

FINAL EXAMINATION will be held during the Christmas examination period, December 8 - 19. It will be THREE hours in length and cover all the materials of the course, with an emphasis on material after the midterm. The examination is worth 30 percent of your course grade.