

PSYC 210: Statistics in Psychological Research

Spring 2019 Syllabus

Teaching Team:

Instructor: Dr. Susan Marshall

Email: smarshall@ku.edu

Office: Fraser 457

Office: Mon & Wed 10-10:45 (in Dole 4th Floor Atrium)

Tues 9:30-11:00 (in Fraser 457) (or by appt.)

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Parnia Haj-Mohamadi

Email: phajmohamadi@ku.edu

Office: Fraser 460

Office Hours: Thurs 9-noon

Time and Location:

Section 67458

M/W/F – 11:00-11:50am

Haworth 2023

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to statistical concepts and methods as they relate to analysis and interpretation of psychological data.

Course Objectives:

- To gain an understanding of the basic concepts underlying statistics, especially those utilized in the social sciences
- To conduct different statistical procedures in order to test various research questions
- To organize, summarize, interpret, and present results obtained from research studies
- To become a more knowledgeable consumer of behavioral research through understanding of statistical methods used both in research and in everyday life

Course Format:

This class is designed as a **hybrid course**. “Hybrid” means it is structured so that learning and instruction occur both in class and via online, out-of-class work. What this means for students is:

- Greater personal responsibility for learning material. You will read and interact with the material and complete quizzes on it *before* it is discussed in class.
- Possibly less time spent physically in class. There will be weeks when we will not meet all three days for class. This flexibility allows you time to work with the material so that you will be prepared to engage with it more deeply during class meetings.

Research has shown that the hybrid course format results in better learning outcomes for students as compared to a traditional lecture format. When students come to class prepared and then engage in activities and discussion in the classroom, they are better able to understand, remember, and apply the information that is covered in this class.

Expectations for Students:

- Come to class prepared for discussion and active contribution each week
- Be willing and prepared to try new and different activities, even if that means stepping out of your comfort zone
- Work with and support each of your class members for the duration of the class
- Be a responsible, reliable, and equal participant in the group research project throughout the semester

Course Materials

Online textbook and learning platform: We will be using an online textbook that is built into the learning platform created by the publisher. Instructions for purchasing access to these materials can be found on Blackboard.

Learning platform: LaunchPad (required for this course)

Textbook: Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (3rd ed.) by Nolan & Heinzen (optional)

There are two options for purchasing access to LaunchPad/the textbook at the KU Bookstore:

- LaunchPad only (with eBook built in)
- LaunchPad + loose leaf copy of the textbook

Calculator: A basic 4-function calculator or scientific calculator is required for this class (NO cell phone calculators are allowed).

SPSS Access: We will be doing some calculations in the statistical software SPSS. You can learn about your options for accessing SPSS by clicking here: <http://technology.ku.edu/software/spss#top>. You can also use SPSS in any of the KU computer labs on campus.

Course Website: This course uses Blackboard (<http://courseware.ku.edu>). You will use Blackboard for any of the following: linking to LaunchPad and the eBook, seeing the course syllabus and schedule, accessing assignments, submitting work, taking quizzes and/or exams, viewing grades, receiving announcements, and emailing the instructor.

Email: A valid KU email address is required for this course. This email is tied to your Blackboard account and will be used to communicate with you outside of our class meeting time. You are expected to check your email daily.

Course Grading

Grading for the course falls into one of two categories: **Effort** and **Performance**. Effort represents your engagement in activities that further your understanding of a given topic. Performance represents your competence on that topic. Both of these areas are important in computing your grade in this course.

Effort (45% Total)

In Class Contribution (20% of Final Grade): The knowledge and skills you will gain in this course highly depend upon your level of contribution to the class. As you must be present to contribute, attendance is a required part of your contribution grade. You are expected to attend class, participate in class discussions, and be energetically involved in class activities. If you are going to miss class for any reason, please communicate with your instructor as early as possible before class. Contribution will be assessed by turning in activities that are completed during class.

“LearningCurve” quizzes and Online Activities (15% of Final Grade): Points are earned by completing the “LearningCurve” quizzes and other assigned online activities through LaunchPad. These are intended to encourage your interaction with the material so that you come to class prepared for our activities.

Pre-class Quizzes (10% of Final Grade): There will be a pre-class quiz in Blackboard for each chapter that must be completed prior to the first class period when that material will be discussed. These quizzes are designed to assess your basic understanding of the material and to ensure that you come to class prepared so that you can actively participate in class discussions and activities. You can take these quizzes as many times as you wish prior to the deadline and your highest score will count toward your grade.

Performance (55% Total)

Homework Assignments (15% of Final Grade): There will be five homework assignments throughout the semester. These assignments will help you to practice the materials and to prepare for exams. Each homework assignment consists of an online portion and a written portion and can be found in Blackboard.

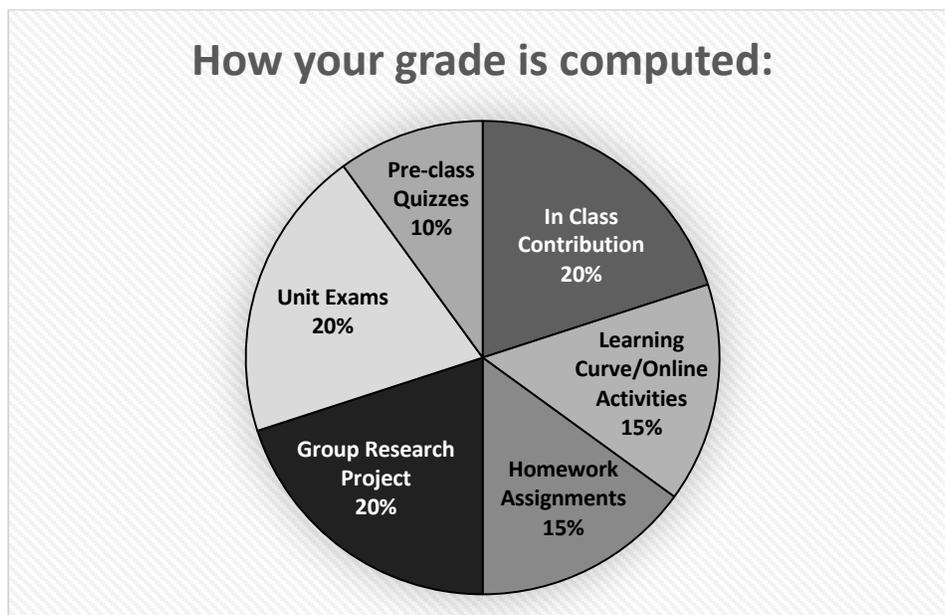
Unit Exams (20% of Final Grade): There will be four unit exams over the course of the semester.

Group Research Project (20% of Final Grade): There will be a group research project due at the end of the semester. We will collect data from all students taking PSYC 210 at the beginning of the semester and will use that data to answer research questions by doing statistical analyses and presenting results during a poster presentation at the end of the semester.

Assignment	% of Course Grade
EFFORT (45%)	
In Class Contribution	20%
LearningCurve eBook quizzes & Online Activities	15%
Pre-class Quizzes	10%
PERFORMANCE (55%)	
Homework Assignments	15%
Unit Exams	20%
Group Research Project	20%

Grading Scale
90 – 100% = A
87 – 89% = B+
80 – 86% = B
77 – 79% = C+
70 – 76% = C
67 – 69% = D+
60 – 66% = D
0 – 59% = F

There are many different types of work in this class and all are important in computing your final grade. Below is a visual representation of the table above. As you can see, you need to be attentive to all areas of grading in order to succeed in this course. This fairly even distribution of points among the various types of work offers you many opportunities to excel and show your strengths.



Course Policies

Academic Deadlines

In the event that this is not the right course for you, the last day to drop this course without a grade is **Feb 11**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 22**.

Electronic Devices

Our classroom is a “distraction free zone” so that everyone can fully engage with the material and participate in class activities. This means that all electronic devices, including cell phones and accessories, must be turned off and put away during class. You need to bring a basic calculator so that you do not have to rely on your cell phone for computations. You may be asked to bring a computer for SPSS analyses for some classes. You will be notified in advance of those days. If you have an extenuating circumstance where you need to monitor your phone during class, let your instructor know in advance. Otherwise, the use of electronic devices during class may result in loss of that day’s contribution points or being asked to leave class.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Because there are many opportunities to earn points in this class, it is not possible to make up most work once the due date has passed. Specifically, Pre-class Quizzes, Online Activities, and LearningCurve quizzes cannot be completed after the deadline. However, if you miss an Exam or Homework Assignment, you will be allowed to complete that work for partial credit (80% of the points earned) if you complete it within one week of the original due date. After one week, no credit can be earned. Please see me if you have an extreme extenuating circumstance (e.g., death in the family, hospitalization) with documentation.

Academic Misconduct Statement (From the University Senate Rules and Regulations):

Academic misconduct by a student shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results; plagiarizing of another's work; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research. An instructor may, with due notice to the student, treat as unsatisfactory (1) any student work that is a product of academic misconduct, or (2) a student's performance for a course when there are severe or repeated instances of academic misconduct.

Commercial Note-Taking:

Pursuant to the University of Kansas’ Policy on Commercial Note-Taking Ventures (<http://policy.ku.edu/provost/commercial-note-taking>), commercial note-taking is not permitted in this class. Lecture notes and course materials may be taken for personal use, for the purpose of mastering the course material, and may not be sold to any person or entity in any form. Any student engaged in or contributing to the commercial exchange of notes or course materials will be subject to discipline, including academic misconduct charges, in accordance with University policy. *Please note: note-taking provided by a student volunteer for a student with a disability, as a reasonable accommodation under the ADA, is not the same as commercial note-taking and is not covered under this policy.*

Students with Disabilities:

The Academic Achievement and Access Center (AAAC) coordinates academic accommodations and services for all eligible KU students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you wish to request accommodations and have not contacted the AAAC, please do so as soon as possible. They are located in 22 Strong Hall and can be reached at 785-864-4064 (V/TTY). Information about their services can be found at <http://www.disability.ku.edu>. Please contact me privately in regard to your needs in this course.

Statement on Diversity & Inclusion:

As a premier international research university, the University of Kansas is committed to an open, diverse and inclusive learning and working environment that nurtures the growth and development of all. KU holds steadfast in the belief that an array of values, interests, experiences, and intellectual and cultural viewpoints enrich learning and our workplace. The promotion of and support for a diverse and inclusive community of mutual respect require the engagement of the entire university.

Weapons Policy:

Individuals who choose to carry concealed handguns **are solely responsible to do so in a safe and secure manner in strict conformity with [state and federal laws](#) and [KU weapons policy](#)**. Safety measures outlined in the KU weapons policy specify that a concealed handgun:

- Must be under the constant control of the carrier.
- Must be out of view, concealed either on the body of the carrier, or in a backpack, purse, or bag that remains under the carrier’s custody and control.
- Must be in a holster that covers the trigger area and secures any external hammer in an un-cocked position.
- Must have the safety on, and have no round in the chamber.

Student Resources

AAAC Tutoring Services	Wescoe Hall, Room 4017	http://tutoring.ku.edu/ 785-864-7733
Center for Civic and Social Responsibility	Strong Hall, Room 150	https://ccsr.ku.edu/about-service-learning 785-864-0960
Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity	Kansas Union, Rm 400	http://silc.ku.edu/sgd 785-864-2497
Center for Undergraduate Research	Strong Hall, Room 151	https://ugresearch.ku.edu/ 785-864-5733
Counseling and Psychological Services	Watkins Memorial Health Center, Room 2100	http://caps.ku.edu/ 785-864-2277
Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity	Rm 400 Kansas Union	http://emilytaylorcenter.ku.edu/ 785-864-3552
Financial Aid & Scholarships	KU Visitor Center	http://affordability.ku.edu/ 785-864-4700
Information Technology	2 nd Floor of Daisy Hill Commons	http://technology.ku.edu/ 785-864-8080
International Student Services	Strong Hall, Room 2	http://iss.ku.edu/ 785-864-3617
KU Psychological Clinic	Fraser Hall, Rm 340	http://psych.ku.edu/psychological_clinic/ (785) 864-4121
KU Recreation Services	David A. Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center	http://recreation.ku.edu/ 785-864-3546
KU Writing Center	Anschutz Learning Studio, 4th Floor	http://writing.ku.edu/ 785-864-2399
Office of Multicultural Affairs	1299 Oread Avenue	http://oma.ku.edu/ 785-864-4350
Office of the University Registrar	Strong Hall, Room 121	http://registrar.ku.edu/ 785-864-4422
Student Access Services	Strong Hall, Room 22	http://disability.ku.edu/ 785-864-4064
Student Involvement & Leadership Center	Kansas Union, Rm 400	http://silc.ku.edu/ 785-864-4861
Undergraduate Advising Center	Strong Hall, Room 126	http://advising.ku.edu/ 785-864-2834
University Career Center	320 Anschutz Library	http://career.ku.edu/ 785-864-3624
University of Kansas Libraries	1425 Jayhawk Blvd	http://lib.ku.edu/ 785-864-8983
Veterans Services (Military-Affiliated Student Center)	345 Summerfield Hall	http://veterans.ku.edu/ 785-864-2458
Watkins Health Services	1200 Schwegler Drive	http://studenthealth.ku.edu/ 785-864-9500