SOCI 33004 lab: Social Data and Analytics Lab Spring 2026

Instructor: Parker Bowman
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Office Hours: Tuesdays by appointment
Lab Place: 205 Old Main
Section 1: Monday: 12:55pm – 1:45pm
Section 2: Tuesday: 12:30pm – 1:20pm

Course Description

This lab, a co-requisite to SOCI 3303, is designed to incorporate the concepts learned in Dr. Yang's Social Data and Analysis course using the computer program Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS), which is available for students' use on all GACL computers. At the conclusion of this course, you should have a working understanding of some of the many functions and uses of SPSS. We will be analyzing data collected as part of the General Social Survey (GSS), which is among the most highly analyzed data sets in the social sciences. For a data file download link and more information on the GSS, you can visit its official website at http://www.gss.norc.org/get-the-data/spss. We will be using the 2018 data, the most current dataset available for download, with the intention that lessons from this course may feel more relevant and applicable to the everyday life and experiences of students. As stated previously, the lab acts as a supplement to your Social Data and Analysis class. Therefore, you will notice that the assignments we do in lab will follow the concepts you are learning in class and reading from the textbook. This means that it will be helpful if you bring your textbook, class notes, and assignments from Social Data and Analysis to the lab. Ultimately, however, grades for SOCI 3303 and SOCI 3301L are independent and will not affect one another.

Textbooks

There is no additional textbook required for the lab section of Social Data and Analysis. Please review the syllabus for SOCI 3303 for textbook requirements.

Lab Hours

Meetings will be held during each specified lab time. Attendance to the labs is required, unless labeled "optional" on the course schedule. You can access the weekly labs on Blackboard by clicking the "Assignments" tab on the left menu bar.

Assignments
Our lab will include 10 total assignments, including 1 review assignments. There should be enough time in each lab to complete your assignment, however, if you are unable to complete the assignment in class, it will need to be turned in **before the beginning** of the next class period. **All assignments must be submitted through blackboard**. Assignments will not be accepted through email.

Assignments in this class build off of what was taught in the previous lab. Referring to your previous assignments will help you remember the initial steps for later assignments. No revisions will be accepted for any assignments. I will round up grades using standard rounding rules when it brings your grade up to a full percent. Example: 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%. 89.4% will not.

Assignments	Points
Assignment 1	90 points
Assignment 2	90 points
Assignment 3	90 points
Assignment 4	90 points
Assignment 5	90 points
Assignment 6	90 points
Assignment 7	90 points
Assignment 8	90 points
Assignment 9	90 points
Final Review Assignment	90 points
Attendance	100 points
Total	1000 points

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	900-1000	90%-100%
B	800-899	80%-89%
C	700-799	70%-79%
D	600-699	60%-69%
F	<600	<60%

Attendance

Attendance at weekly labs is **required.** Attendance will be taken within the first 10 minutes of class. Each day's attendance is worth 10 points. Students' lowest attendance score will be dropped, meaning they will have 1 day they are able to miss without losing attendance points. Students who miss a lab are still expected to complete and submit that day's assignment before its respective deadline. I will often be able to cover labs in full during these meetings. This includes walking through SPSS outputs and explaining answers to questions

Late Homework

Late assignment will **not** be accepted. All assignments will be due **before the beginning** of the next class period after they are assigned**.** If you miss a lab meeting, the assignment will still need to be completed before the following class. **All assignments must be submitted through blackboard**. Assignments will not be accepted through email. The only exception to this policy is documented emergencies or school sanctioned events. You will need to get in touch with me in either case.

Class Policies

Please be respectful of both the instructor and other students. Do not disrupt class.
If you are a student with disabilities, you must register with the Center for Educational Access (http://cea.uark.edu) and provide me with the associated paperwork if you wish to receive your necessary accommodations. Students with CEA requests must request a meeting with me in order to discuss how best to accommodate your needs. You can request such a meeting at any point during the semester. However, keep in mind that this meeting must occur before any CEA accommodations can be provided

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism will be taken very seriously. Violations carry severe consequences. Consult the university's academic integrity policy (https://honesty.uark.edu/policy/index.php) and the university's list of common violations (https://honesty.uark.edu/policy/common-violations.php)for more information. Students may work together to help each other understand information and concepts discussed in lab, but students should be completing and turning in their own assignments. None of the assignments in this class are group projects.

Emergency Procedures

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for specific emergencies such as severe weather, active shooter, or fire can be found at https://safety.uark.edu/.

Severe Weather (Tornado Warnings)
Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel. Seek shelter in the basement, an interior room, or the hallway on the lowest floor. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside. If you are in a multi-story building, and you cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building, and stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

Violence/Active shooter (CADD)
CALL: 9-1-1.
AVOID: If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.
DENY: Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases, or any other items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police that it's safe.
DEFEND: Use chairs, desks, cellphones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.

Questions or Concerns
If you have ANY questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to let me know! I am happy to help you. I am here to answer your questions, both during class and by appointment. Remember, the best way to reach me is by email!

Class Schedule

Calendar

Week 1 (January 12, 13)

Orientation to class/ Syllabus

Week 2 (January 19, 20)

No Class: MLK day

Week 3 (January 26, 27)

Assignment 1 Types of variables

Week 4 (February 2,3)

Assignment 2: Frequencies

Week 5 (February 9, 10)

Assignment 3: Central Tendency

Week 6 (February 16, 17)

Assignment 4: Standard Deviations and Comparing Means

Week 7 (February 23, 24)

No Class: Study for Exam

Week 8 (March 2, 3)

Assignment 5: Z score

Week 9 (March 9, 10)

Assignment 6: Biveriate tests

Week 10 (March 16, 17)

Assignment 7: Chi-squared test

Week 11 (March 23, 24)

No Class: Spring Break

Week 12 (March 30, 31)

Assignment 8: Variable Search

Week 13 (April 6, 7)

No Class: Study for Exam

Week 14 (April 13, 14)

Assignment 9: ANOVA

Week 15 (April 20, 21)

Assignment 10: Finale Review

Week 16 (April 27, 28)

No Class: Reading Day

Week 17 (May 4, 5)

No Class: Finals Week