Chapter 1: basics in Social Statistics

1) What is social statistics?

It is a set of mathematical methods being used to analyze social data.

2) What are social data?

Data about human, community, organization, party, events, sports, business, etc.

3) What is dataset?

	V1	V2	V3	V4	v5	Vm
Case 1						
Case 2						
Case 3						
Case N						

4) Variables

   A) Nominal variable: variables with groups that cannot be ranked.

   Gender (men, women), race (white, black, Asian, Hispanics, others), region, and religion.

   B) Ordinal variable: variables with groups that can be ranked but cannot be numerically measured.

   Satisfaction, social class, occupations

   C) Interval/ratio variables: variables with groups that can be ranked and numerically measured.

   Income, education, temperature, height, weight, salary, age.

   D) Dummy variable: variables with only two groups

   Gender (men, women).

   You can dichotomize a non-dummy variable. For example, you can dichotomize race into a binary (dummy) variable.

5) Statistical software

   SPSS, SAS, STATA, R, Math Lab, self-developing package. If you can use C/C++, JAVA, you can write your own code.