
SOCI 3301L: Social Data and Analysis Lab Spring 2024

Instructor: Jason Neeley

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Office Hours: By appointment

Section 1: Monday 12:55 – 1:45

Section 2: Thursday 12:30 – 1:20

Classroom: Old Main 205 (Computer Lab)

Did you hear about the statistics professor who was thrown in jail? He now has zero degrees of freedom.

**The mode of instruction for this class is face-to-face. You ARE required to meet at the computer lab on campus for this course.*

If you'd like to have a meeting to discuss coursework, email me your availability, and I will set up a meeting via Zoom or in the computer lab. I am happy to answer any conceptual questions and give examples for lab/class work, but please do not ask me for answers to specific homework questions.

The best way to reach me is by email. Weekdays and weekends, I respond to emails within 24 hours.

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.

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 and Grading

We will have 10 labs total, including 2 review assignments. The allotted time should be enough to complete each assignment; however, if you are unable to complete the assignment in class, it will need to be turned in to me no later than the **beginning** of the following class period on Blackboard. All labs will be submitted through Blackboard. No assignments will be accepted through email.

Please note that the assignments tend to build off one another. ***Referring to your previous lab assignments will help you in remembering initial steps for later assignments.***
No revisions will be accepted for any assignments – what you earn the first time is what you get. 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.

The grade breakdown for lab will be as follows:

Assignments	Points
<i>Assignment 1</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 2</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 3</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 4</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 5</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 6</i>	75 Points
<i>Review Assignment</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 7</i>	75 Points
<i>Assignment 8</i>	75 Points
<i>Final Review</i>	125 Points
<i>Attendance</i>	200 Points (20 Points/Lab)
TOTAL	1000 Points

Letter grades will follow the standard pattern:

Grade	Points	Percent
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 to weekly lab meetings **is required**. Attendance will be taken within the first ten minutes of class. Each day is worth 20 points. I will often be able to cover labs in full during

these meetings, including walking through SPSS outputs and explaining answers to questions, as well as providing example substantive statements and interpretations of data.

****If you are unable to attend lab, please email me as soon as possible. You will only be able to earn attendance points for a missed class if your absence is excused.*

Late Homework

Late homework will **not** be accepted. All lab assignments are due by the beginning of the following class meeting. If you miss the lab meeting, ***the assignment will still need to be completed before the following class***. I will not accept email submissions of the assignment. The only exception to this policy is in 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 Warning)

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

Week 1 (January 15, 18)

No Class! MLK day!

Week 2 (January 22, 25)

Assignment 1 – Types of Variables

Week 3 (January 29, February 1)

Assignment 2 – Frequencies

Week 4 (February 5, 8)

Assignment 3 – Central Tendency

Week 5 (February 12, 15)

Assignment 4 – Comparing Means

Week 6 (February 19, 22)

No Class. Good luck on Exam 1!

Week 7 (February 26, 29)

Assignment 5 – Crosstabs

Week 8 (March 4, 7)

Assignment 6 – Chi-Square Test

Week 9 (March 11, 14)

Review Assignment

Week 10 (March 18, 21)

No class! Have a fun and safe Spring Break!

Week 11 (April 1, 4)

No class! Good luck on Exam 2!

Week 12 (April 8, 11)

Assignment 7 – Introduction to ANOVA

Week 13 (April 15, 18)

Assignment 8 – Correlations

Week 14 (April 22, 25)

Final Review Assignment

Week 15 (April 29/May 2)

Optional Class – Finish Final Review Assignment

Week 16 (May 6)

No Class! Good luck on your Final Exam!