PAD 5701: QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Summer 2014

MONDAYS, 5:30-8:15 PM  Bellamy 114

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the second of the 5700-5701 sequence of introductory statistics courses. While the first covered research design, this course covers the utilization and interpretation of basic statistical techniques in the analysis of social science data with emphasis on applications in public administration and public policy. Topics include: descriptive and exploratory data analysis, sampling and the logic of classical statistical inference, the analysis of contingency tables, the statistics of group differences (t tests, Anova designs) and the statistics of relationships (correlation and regression analysis). We will use Excel and IBM SPSS statistical software for most if not all the exercises in class. Class will consist of lectures, discussions, occasional student presentations and computer lab time.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students who complete the course are expected to be able to:

• Develop research or policy questions that can be addressed using empirical evidence
• Interpret and analyze data relevant to the research or policy question
• Be familiar with primary and secondary sources of data useful for public administration
• Determine the applicability of appropriate statistical tools for specific research problems
• Be competent in the use of basic statistical tools in the conduct of research
• Be able to use statistical software in the analysis of data
• Be knowledgeable about the ethics of social science research

TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS


* SPSS: Access to SPSS is required. The software is available on several computers located in many computer labs throughout campus, including our school’s lab located on the 6th floor of the Bellamy building and the graduate student lab in the basement of Strozier library.

* Excel: Access to Excel is required. You should download the Data Analysis Toolpak in Excel. There are 3 ways to use Excel for statistical analysis-function, formula or using the Data Analysis ToolPak. I recommend the last method for this class.

All course materials, homework assignments, class data sets and instructional changes will be posted on the course’s Blackboard site.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Students are expected to read and reflect upon assigned readings and prepared to discuss them. Grades will be based on the following requirements:

1. Homework Assignments and Class Participation (30%)
2. Midterm Exam (35%)
3. Final Exam (35%)

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following point totals: A=94 or higher; A-=90-93.99; B+=87-89.99; B=83-86.99; B-=80-82.99; C+=77-79.99; C=73-76.99; C-=70-72.99; D+=67-69.99; D=63-66.99; D-=60-62.99; F= less than 60.

MAKEUP WORK AND EXAMS

Late homework is NOT accepted without an academically valid and approved FSU excuse. The instructor will NOT give make-up exams.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance is considered essential to achieving a successful course outcome. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain complete information on that class from another student in the course.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Policy published in the Florida State University Bulletin and the Student Handbook. The Academic Honor System of the Florida State University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the university community. Please see the following web site for a complete explanation of the Academic Honor Policy. http://academichonor.fsu.edu/policy/policy.html
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the Student Disability Resource Center at 644-9566, sdrc@admin.fsu.edu, or visit the web site at http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>May 12</th>
<th>Introduction and Logistics: Research Design Review</th>
<th>NJK Chapters 1-4</th>
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| Week 2 | May 19 | Research Design | NJK Chapters 1-4  
http://govthesis.site.wesleyan.edu/what-is-research/the-research-question-2/  
Angrist and Pischke, The Credibility Revolution in Empirical Economics: How Better Research Design is Taking the Con out of Econometrics |
| Week 3 | May 26 | Sampling and Data Collection | NJK Chapters 5 and 6  
SN pp.90-91  
Daniel, Johnnie 2013 Sampling Essentials Sage Publications |
| Week 4 | June 2 | Descriptive Statistics | NJK Chapter 7  
SN Chapter 8, Chapter 11 |
| Week 5 | June 9 | Statistical Inference | NJK Chapter 8  
Homework 1 Due |
| Week 6 | June 16 | Mid Term Exam | NJK Chapters 1-8, SN Chapter 8 |
| Week 7 | June 23 | Difference of Means Tests | NJK Chapter 9  
SN pp 94-99  
Homework 2 Due |
| Week 8 | June 30 | Analysis of Variance | NJK Chapter 10  
SN pp.100-105  
Homework 3 Due |
| Week 9 | July 7 | Chi Square and Contingency Tables | NJK Chapter 12  
SN Chapter 5  
Homework 4 Due |
| Week 10 | July 14 | Correlation and Regression | NJK Chapters 11 and 13  
SN Chapter 10  
Homework 5 Due |
| Week 11 | July 21 | Multiple Regression and Review | NJK Chapter 13  
Homework 6 Due |
| Week 12 | July 28 | Final Exam | Entire Book Chapters 1 thru 13 |