Psychology 300: Lab Section 201/202
Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:20; Innovation 129
Wednesdays 3:30 – 5:20 pm; Innovation 330
Spring 2014

Instructor: Tanya Tavassolie
Office: David King Hall 1032
Office Hours: Thursdays 10:30-11:30am, and by appointment
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Required Text:

Gravetter, F. & Wallnau, L. (2013). Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (9th ed) Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage Learning. (required)

Study Guide – optional, but many find it useful.

Course Objectives: Psychology 300 is an introduction to statistics as it applies to psychological research. The purpose of the lab is to reinforce the material from PSYC 300 lecture and allow you to practice the statistical methods you will learn in class. This lab will also provide a time for students to ask questions and review difficult concepts with me, along with introducing students to SPSS.

Grading: Your lab will be worth 70 points of your total PSYC 300 grade (approximately 20%). The lab assignments will consist of in-class worksheets, SPSS in-class assignments, pop quizzes and homework assignments.

Worksheets: Each week a 10-point worksheet will be completed. 10 of the 11 worksheets will be counted toward your final grade, for a total of 100 points. These are due by the end of class. No make-ups permitted.

SPSS assignments: SPSS computer assignments will also be in-class activities. They are worth 5 points each, and 5 out of the 6 will be required, for a total of 25 points. Your lowest score will be dropped from this total. No make-ups permitted.

Homework: Problems will be assigned every class, and due at the beginning of the following class period. Each homework assignment will be worth 10 points; 9 out of the 10 will be required, for a total of 90 points. ***Late homework will be accepted up to 5 days late, deducting 1 point each day it is late. Anything turned in after 5 days will not be counted. No homework will be accepted after the final class.***

Pop Quizzes: Five pop quizzes will be given throughout the semester during lab. They are worth 5 points each, 4 out of 5 will be required, for a total of 20 points. The format will be some combination of short answer, true/false, and multiple choice. They will be given at the beginning of class and you will have 15 minutes to complete them. The lowest grade will be dropped. No make-ups permitted.

Point Conversion: Lab will consist of 70 points of your total grade for the course. Total points possible in lab are 235. The percentage of points gained from lab is taken out of 70 (for the course) to calculate your grade. For example, 212/235 points in Lab is 90%. Then, 90% of 70 is 63 points.

Attendance Policy: Since the lab requires you to complete various assignments every week, it is important that you do not miss any lab classes! However, your lowest grade will be dropped from the homework, worksheets, and SPSS assignments. This allows you to miss one lab without harming your grade. **CAUTION**: Please note that if you miss a lab where there is an SPSS assignment and there happens to be a pop quiz that day, you will be missing 30 points! **Please remember to bring your calculator and lecture textbook to lab!**

Exams: Exams for the lecture part of the class will be given during lab sessions (except your final). Remember to bring a green scantron (882-ES without student ID number) and a calculator. Equation sheets, prepared by Dr. Wanschura, will be provided for you during class for the exam.

Software: We will be using a computer program called Statistical Program for the Social Sciences (SPSS) in this course. SPSS is a statistical package used for research in psychology and the main goal of this class is to ensure that you are comfortable with running analyses and interpreting output. You are not expected to purchase this software for your personal computer.

Email policy: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Honor Code: All provisions of the GMU Honor Code will be followed in this class. The instructor for this course reserves the right to enter a failing grade to any student found guilty of an honor code violation.

Disability Services: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Psychological Services: Life is stressful and we all need a little support sometimes. Students are encouraged to contact Counseling & Psychological Services (caps.gmu.edu) for assistance with any kind of psychological/life problem or crisis situation. I can help with referrals for students with particular counseling needs so please feel free to talk with me for help with anything.

Course Outline:

Week	Date	Chapters	In-Class Assignment	Homework Due
1	January 22	Overview and Ch. 1 - Introduction	WS #1	None
2	January 29	Ch. 2 & 3 – Frequency Distributions and Central Tendency	WS #2, SPSS #1	HW #1
3	February 5	Ch. 4 & 5 – Z-scores and Variability	WS #3, SPSS #2	HW #2
4	February 12	**Exam 1: Chapters 1-5**		
5	February 19	Ch. 6 & 7 – Probability and Distribution of Sample Means	WS #4, SPSS #3	HW #3
6	February 26	Ch. 8 – Hypothesis testing	WS #5	HW #4
7	March 5	Ch. 9 – Single sample t	WS #6	HW #5
8	March 12	**NO LAB CLASS-** *SPRING BREAK*		
9	March 19	**Exam 2: Chapters 6-9**		
10	March 26	Ch. 10 & 11 – Independent and Repeated t	WS #7, SPSS #4	HW #6
11	April 2	Ch. 12 – Independent ANOVA	WS #8	HW #7
12	April 9	**Exam 3: Chapters 10-12**		
13	April 16	Ch. 13 & 14 – Repeated and Two-factor ANOVA	WS #9, SPSS #5	HW #8
14	April 23	Ch. 15 – Correlation	WS #10	HW #9
15	April 30	Ch. 16 & 17 – Regression and Chi Square	WS #11, SPSS #6	HW #10
	May 7	**Final Exam (Chapter 13-17)** **10:30 am – 1:15 pm in regular classroom**		

Last day to add: January 28, 2014   Last day to drop: February 21, 2014
Selective withdrawal period: 2/24 – 3/28 (Consult advisor for this option)