**202:302:63 – Data Analysis in CJ**

**Spring Semester, 2013**

**Center for Law & Justice Room 025,Thursdays 6:00PM-9:00PM**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Name:** Samuel E DeWitt

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**Office:** Center for Law and Justice, Room 567A

**Office Hours:** Thursdays, 10am-11pm

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

**Gau, Jacinta M. (2012). Statistics for Criminology and Criminal Justice. First Edition. Sage Publications.**

 ISBN-10:1412991277

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

This course will involve a general introduction to statistical methods of analyzing data. The content of this course will include basic statistics (e.g., mean, median, mode) as well as more advanced statistical concepts and techniques, such as probability and hypothesis testing. I will be assuming basic skills in mathematics, equivalent to a college algebra course, given that it is a requirement for enrollment in this course.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

There will be several components to your grade including three exams, homework assignments, attendance, and participation. The breakdown is as follows:

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| **Grade Components** | **Worth** |
| Exam #1 | 20% |
| Exam #2 | 20% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Homework Assignments | 20% |
| Attendance & Participation | 10% |

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| --- | --- |
| A: 90-100% | C: 70-74% |
| B+: 85-89% | D: 60-69% |
| B: 80-84% | F: <60% |
| C+: 75-79% |  |

EXAMS: Exams will be comprised of several questions involving the statistical techniques we have covered up until that point in the semester. Each exam will aim to test you on your understanding of the materials covered in lecture and in the Gau text. Most questions will require statistical computation which will require the use of a basic scientific calculator (not a very expensive one, a $10-$20 calculator will do).

Exams will be take-home, and will be due one week after they are distributed. I will not accept exams after their due dates without a University-excused absence. If you anticipate not being able to complete an exam in time it is your responsibility to notify me prior to the due date (when possible). Failure to do this will result in a grade of zero for that exam.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: There will be 5-6 homework assignments throughout the course of the semester. The questions on the homework assignments will involve concepts from your required readings and lectures and will require an adequate understanding of materials covered in previous sessions (statistics is a cumulative subject, if you do not understand basic concepts, it will be very difficult to understand more advanced concepts such as hypothesis testing). All homework assignments will be posted to blackboard the same day they are distributed in class.

Of the 5-6 homework grades, the lowest score will be dropped. If you have a University-excused absence for a session in which a homework assignment is due, you must notify me in advance of your absence or, at the very least, notify me within 24 hours of the missed session. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for that homework assignment.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance, worth 5% of your overall course grade, is required. Attendance will be taken each session. Five percentage points may not seem like much, but it may be the difference between a C+ and a B. Additionally, I cannot stress enough the importance of attending regularly; statistics is generally a difficult subject to grasp, especially when involving probability and hypothesis testing.

As a final note, it is the responsibility of the student, not the instructor, to make-up missed material. If you know you will be absent on a particular day, be sure to let me know in advance and contact one of your fellow students so that you can access notes from the lecture.

PARTICIPATION: In class participation accounts for 5% of the course grade. This portion of the grade is not guaranteed. Students are expected to come to each class and have read the material and familiarize themselves with it prior to class. Participation means actively engaging in the class, asking questions and contributing to discussion.

**APPOINTMENTS AND EMAIL ETIQUETTE**

If you have a question or a problem, see me after the lecture or contact me through email. When emailing me, be sure to send me three times you are available to meet, and we will find a time that works for both of us.

When you send me an email, put the course name in the subject, write it in English (not text message language), be courteous, and sign your name! I won’t even bother with your email if these conditions aren’t met. If you send me an email (for any reason), after I reply, send me a reply to confirm you received it, even if it just says “okay” or “thanks.”

**STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are expected to conform to the highest ethical standards regarding academic integrity. Refer to the Rutgers University policies presented in the Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students (<http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>) for more information.

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| *ATTENTION STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY: Please, contact the Newark Campus ADA Official Nelitha Wilson-Michael at* [*nmichael@andromeda.rutgers.edu*](mailto:nmichael@andromeda.rutgers.edu) *or by phone 973-343-3500 if you need or require assistance. For more information, please, go to* [*http://polcomp.rutgers.edu/compl.shtml*](http://polcomp.rutgers.edu/compl.shtml) |

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

*Cell Phones*: Cell phones should be on silent during class, and, more importantly, I do not want to see them (i.e., keep them in your pockets, not on your desk).

If this rule is violated, I will first ask the offending student to put their cell phone away or to make it silent (if it rings during class). If the rule is violated a second time, the student’s grade will be reduced by a whole letter grade (an A will become a B).

*Laptops:* Laptops are permitted but only for academic-related purposes. If a student is found to be checking Facebook during class, or simply surfing the internet, I reserve the right to revoke this privilege for the entire class.

**WANT THE CLIFF’S NOTES? IN ORDER TO SUCCEED…**

* Come to class as often as humanly possible, on time, ready to listen and contribute.
* Read the material and prepare some insightful comments or questions.
* Respect me, your fellow classmates, and yourself.
* Do not get behind, and do not wait until the last minute to study for exams or to complete assignments.
* Do not be afraid to ask for help if there is something you truly do not understand.

**SCHEDULE**

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| **Session** | **Date** | **Subject** | **Of note** |
| 1 | 01/24/13 | **Introduction; Review of Syllabus; Types of Variables and Levels of Measurement (Part I)** |  |
| 2 | 01/31/13 | **Types of Variables and Levels of Measurement (Part II); Data Visualization** | *Read Chapters 1-2* |
| 3 | 02/07/13 | **Measures of Central Tendency** | *Read Chapter 4*  *Homework #1 Due* |
| 4 | 02/14/13 | **Measures of Dispersion** | *Read Chapter 5* |
| 5 | 02/21/13 | **EXAM I Distributed; Probability & Review Session** | *Read Chapter 6*  *Homework #2 Due* |
| 6 | 02/28/13 | EXAM I Due; Population, Sample, and Sampling Distributions | *Read Chapter 7* |
| 7 | 03/07/13 | **Point Estimates and Confidence Intervals** | *Read Chapter 8*  *Homework #3 Due* |
| 8 | 03/14/13 | **Hypothesis Testing (Introduction); Hypothesis Testing with Two Categorical Variables – Chi-Square** | *Read Chapters 9-10* |
| 9 | 03/21/13 | **Spring Recess – No Class** | *Review Readings and Lecture Slides* |
| 10 | 03/28/13 | **EXAM 2 Distributed; Hypothesis Testing with Two Population Means or Proportions** | *Read Chapter 11*  *Homework #4 Due* |
| 11 | 04/04/13 | **EXAM 2 Due; Hypothesis Testing with Three or More Population Means – Analysis of Variance** | *Read Chapter 12 (First Half)* |
| 12 | 04/11/13 | **Hypothesis Testing with Three or More Population Means; Analysis of Variance** | *Read Chapter 12 (Second Half)* |
| 13 | 04/18/13 | **Hypothesis Testing with Two Continuous Variables** | *Read Chapter 13*  *Homework #5 Due* |
| 14 | 04/25/13 | **Introduction to Regression Analysis** | *Read Chapter 14* |
| 15 | 05/02/13 | **Regression (cont); Review for Final; Final Exam Distributed**  ***Final Exam Due on Thursday, May 9th by 6pm*** | *Review Readings and Lecture Slides*  *Homework #6 Due* |