

SOC202H1S – L0201 (JANUARY/APRIL 2014)
Quantitative Analysis in Social Science Research

Professor Scott Schieman

WED: 4:10-6:00; SS1085

Office Hours: By Appointment

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Prerequisite: The prerequisite to take this course is SOC200H1. Students without this prerequisite will be removed at any time they are discovered.

Course Objectives

This course will introduce students to the basic language and methods of quantitative analyses in sociology. My approach involves extensive use of examples from real research to illustrate the ideas, techniques, and interpretations of quantitative methods. Topics include univariate and descriptive techniques and bivariate techniques—including ANOVA, Chi-square, and regression. A word of caution and encouragement: The material in this course is intensive and cumulative. Therefore, missing class and/or failing to complete the readings—both prior to and after each class—will undermine your learning and the likelihood of successful completion of the course.

Required Reading

Introduction to Statistics for Social Sciences, 1st Edition (by Scott Colwell and Edward Carter). It is essential that students read the assigned readings before each class period. My lectures and our discussions will be based on those readings. Therefore, they represent the fundamental core of the course. I may not cover every aspect of each reading during class periods. However, all of the readings may appear in the tests and exercises.

Course Details

Marks: There are 3 tests: Test 1 is worth 30% of your final mark. Test 2 is worth 40% of your final mark; Test 3 is worth 25% of your final mark. Test format is multiple choice, problem solving, short- and long-answer. **Note:** Tests are highly time intensive and will require the entire time period. Scientific calculators are required. In-class exercises are worth 5% of your final mark; these are true/false or short-answer format based on readings/lectures.

NOTE: Tardiness on test dates is highly disruptive to your fellow students—especially given the size of this class. It is unacceptable and will therefore result in a one-point deduction per each one (1) minute of late arrival after the start time. You must notify me in writing in advance if you anticipate being late. Your excuse must be one that is officially recognized U of T excuses (see below). Make the necessary arrangements in advance to arrive well before the start time of the tests. Everyone must be seated and ready to receive the test at 4:10. All tests will be written in the usual location of the course: SS1085.

Student Conduct: Full and complete attendance is required for learning the material in this course. The class meets 12 times. Each class is an hour and fifty minutes. By remaining in the course, you are signaling your commitment to attend class (on time) and satisfy all requirements. I realize that many students work or have other obligations. However, if you have a scheduling conflict, I encourage you to consider other course options to avoid such conflicts. **Note:** If you have paid employment, you must make the necessary job-related scheduling arrangements to meet this course's requirements—including meetings with TA during scheduled office hours to review course materials and tests. Excessive lateness and other problematic behaviours (including in your interactions with and emails to me or the TA) will not be tolerated and will result in mark penalties (5 marks of your final mark per incident) or possible punitive action at the discretion of the instructor. Any offensive or inappropriate content on tests, exercises, or any other course materials will result in the mark of a zero (0) for the entire test or in-class exercise and may also result in possible additional punitive action at the discretion of the instructor.

Policy Regarding Missed Tests: The privilege of taking a make-up test will only be granted in cases where there is legitimate, university-approved evidence of very serious illness or family emergency. Three types of documentation are considered “official”: a Verification of Student Illness or Injury form, a college registrar's letter, and a letter from Accessibility Services. Excuses like “workloads, stress, work, bad weather” and so on are not acceptable. Students must provide official documentation that is dated on the day of or day before the test (not after the test). Do not write the test and then later request a make-up or accommodation. If you miss the test, you must email me within 48 hours

of the test that includes the scanned official documentation (fully legible and complete with contact information). **There will be one (1) date for all make-up tests: Friday April 4th from 3:10 – 5:00 (no exceptions)**. I am strict about make-up tests to insure that the process is fair for all students. Students having serious academic-, personal- or health-related problems during the semester should seek immediate guidance from their advisor, registrar, or other support services on campus before these problems interfere with course requirements.

Test Review Policy and Requests for Re-Marks: Tests will not be returned to students. However, all students may review their tests with the TA during the scheduled test review times (TBA). During these sessions, the TA will not be permitted to change marks or engage in one-on-one feedback about the content. If you have any concerns about your test marks, you may request a re-grade in writing (email) that specifies your reasons for the request. I will handle all requests and *will re-grade your entire test*. NOTE: Your test mark may increase, decrease, or remain the same as the mark provided by the TA.

Accessibility: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, Accessibility Services is your home base for support. It is important to contact the office as soon as you are accepted to U of T so that accommodations for your needs are in place before classes start. All information about your disability is confidential and won't be shared with units outside of Accessibility Services without your consent. www.accessibility.utoronto.ca. 416-978-8060.

Organization of Course and Reading Schedule*

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
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* **Please note:** This is a *tentative* schedule. Unforeseen circumstances sometimes require flexibility in scheduling. If that occurs, I will notify students and provide a revised schedule.

January 8:	The Role of Statistics in the Social Sciences	Chapter 1
January 15:	Describing Data	Chapters 2 & 3
January 22:	Probability Theory and the Normal Curve	Chapters 4 & 5
January 29:	Test 1	
February 5:	Sampling Distributions; Confidence Intervals	Chapters 6 & 8
February 12:	Hypothesis Testing; Bivariate Relationships (T-Tests)	Chapters 7 & 10
	<i>[February 19: ***READING WEEK—NO CLASS***]</i>	
February 26:	ANOVA	Chapter 11
March 5:	Chi-Square	Chapter 13
March 12:	Test 2	
March 19:	Correlation and Regression	Chapter 12
March 26:	Correlation and Regression	Chapter 12
April 2:	Test 3	