Political Science 512: Quantitative Political Analysis

Fall 2012
Monday 5:45-8:35 p.m.
HSS 109

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M, W 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Course Goals

1. Develop an understanding of the purpose and process of social science research.
2. Develop an understanding of the functions of statistics in social science research.
3. Develop an understanding of basic data management principles.
4. Develop an understanding of basic statistical tools.

Course Requirements

Exam #1  30%  Exam #3  30%
Exam #2  30%  SPSS project  10%

Required Text


Additional materials and readings will be uploaded to the class Blackboard website accessed via Online@UT.

Students with Disabilities

Students who have a disability that may require individualized accommodations should inform me of these needs at the beginning of the semester. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs. Also, please take advantage of support provided by the University. Please contact the Office of Disability Services at 865-974-6087 in Hoskins Library to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.
**Changes to Course Requirements and Schedule**

The instructor reserves the right to change any assignments, readings, or schedule during the course of the semester and will announce any such changes in class.

**Weekly Topics**

1. Introduction (8/27)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 1.

   No class—Labor Day (9/3)

**Univariate Statistics**

2. Describing Variables (8/27, 9/10)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 2.

**Bivariate Statistics**

3. Association: Contingency, Correlation, and Regression (9/17, 24)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 3.

***Exam #1 (10/1)***

4. Probability and Sampling Distributions (10/1, 8)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 5-7.

5. Statistical Inference: Confidence Intervals (10/8, 15)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 8.

6. Statistical Inference: Significance Tests about Hypotheses (10/22)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 9 & 10.

7. Statistical Inference: Association between Categorical Variables (10/29)
   Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 11.

***Exam #2 (11/5)***
8. Statistical Inference: Association between Quantitative Variables (11/5,12,19)
Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 12.

9. Statistical Inference: Comparing Multiple Group Means (11/26)
Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 14

10. Multiple Regression (12/3)
Reading: Agresti & Franklin, Ch. 13.

***SPSS Project—TBD***

***Exam #3 (Finals Week: 12/10, 7:15-9:15)***