Course Information

Instructor: John E. Kolassa
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Please do not send e-mail with formats other than plain text or PDF.

Course Meeting Time: Online course, timing TBA. The course material is broken into two lessons per week, labeled Tu and Th on the attached schedule.

Dates: Fourteen weeks, excluding spring break, plus exam, starting 20 January. BUT NOT: 17, 19 March

Objectives: This course represents a distance-learning version of 960-532, offered for graduate students in education and frequently recommended for nursing doctoral students.

Independent Research: Students should aspire to be able to independently carry out a statistical analysis on results of independent research projects, in simple situations. A thorough mastery of the course material will allow this.

Critical Reading: Students should be able to critically read results of others' research, and in those cases in which the analysis uses only methods described in this course, assess the validity of the analysis, and interpret the conclusions.

Text:
Required: Devore, J.L. and Peck, R. (2005), Statistics, the exploration and analysis of data, Belmont, Calif.: Duxbury Press.

Requirements:
Homework: Homework will be assigned approximately biweekly, and will be graded. Solutions will be supplied. Students are encouraged to consult with each other and the instructor when contemplating these problems but are expected to draft their solutions themselves. Students who submit correct homework solutions without fully understanding them can expect substantially lower grades on exams. The lowest homework grade will be dropped. This provision is meant to accommodate personal emergencies, and constitutes all such indulgence I expect to give in most cases. Homeworks will constitute 30% of the final grade. Students are responsible for locating computing resources needed for homeworks. I will demonstrate calculations using SPSS, a standard software package.

Exams: As with the rest of the course, exams will not require student presence. Exams will be timed, and students will be on their honor to complete the exam within a specified time limit, at a time of their convenience during a time window specified by the instructor. Except possibly in the case of a bona fide emergency no makeup exams will be given. Exact mechanics of exam submission is yet to be determined. Absolutely no makeup exam will be given and no alternate source of credit will be given for predictable conflicts with exam times unless such an arrangement is requested within the first two weeks of class.

Midterm: accounting for 25% of the final grade.
Final: accounting for 35% of the final grade.
Other participation: 10% of the course grade will be based on regular participation in the on-line blog.

Prerequisites: Admission to the nursing doctoral program.
Web Page: Available via Sakai.

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