

## PSYC 300: STATISTICS FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS (SECTIONS M01 & W01)

SPRING 2022

4 AAS KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATURAL WORLD (NW) CREDITS

4 AAS QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (AAS-QL) CREDITS

**Instructor:** Dr. Sandy Neumann      **Office:** Zoom      **Office hours:** During Lab

**Email:** sneumann@uwsp.edu (**Do not use Canvas to contact me**)

**Prerequisites:** PSYC 110 & either MATH 95 or MATH 100 or suitable placement test score.

**Recommended:** PSYC 200

### Welcome to the world of Psychological Statistics!

Psychology obviously has many important contributions to make. One way we do that is to publish our research and statistical analyses. This semester we will learn to calculate, read, and understand a variety of descriptive and inferential statistical tests commonly utilized in Psychology. In the end, you will come away with a better understanding of statistics (and research) in Psychology and how you can make your own contribution!

### Course format

We will start this semester face-to-face, in an actual classroom!!! We will meet three times a week (using the times listed in the schedule of courses). Most of our work will be conducted in class. At student request, class meetings will be recorded and posted in Canvas for those who need the review and/or are unable to come to class.

If COVID-19 cases begin to surge and/or if the University requires us to do so, we will then move entirely online in a synchronous format. More details will be made available if this occurs. Hope for the best but plan for the worst.

### Learning outcomes

Knowledge of the Natural World (NW) courses focus on concepts and applications related to the natural and physical sciences and mathematics. the NW requirement typically includes coursework in the sciences and mathematics. If you are in NW courses, you can expect to:

- Describe and evaluate existing knowledge of the natural world
- Interpret, analyze, and communicate data, results, and conclusions; and/or
- Apply concepts across disciplines.

Courses that satisfy the Quantitative Literacy for the Associate Degree (QL-AD) requirement focus on developing knowledge of and confidence with basic mathematical/analytical concepts and operations required for problem-solving, decision-making, economic productivity, and real-world applications.

More specifically for Dr. N's class, by the end of this semester, I expect that you will demonstrate some level of mastery of these 7 **Course Learning Objectives**:

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Describe and evaluate existing knowledge of the natural world by:

1. Using quantitative analyses to argue for or against a particular hypothesis.

Interpret, analyze, and communicate data, results, and conclusions by:

2. Communicating conclusions using APA-style statistical copy.
3. Using Microsoft Word for writing equations.

Interpret statistical findings in the context of their level of statistical significance, including the influence of effect size, and explain these findings using common language by:

4. Interpreting statistics, graphs, and tables.

Apply concepts across disciplines by:

5. Identifying fields other than psychology that address behavioral concerns.

Develop knowledge of and confidence with basic mathematical/analytical concepts and operations by:

6. Understanding statistical presentation in published research articles.
7. Using SPSS for basic statistical analysis.

**Required texts**

1. Gravetter, F. J., Wallnau, L. B., Forzano, L. B., & Witnaur, J. E. (2021). *Essentials of statistics for the behavioral sciences* (10th ed.). Cengage. (ISBN-13: 978-0-357-36529-8)
2. Additional readings posted in Canvas.
3. Cronk, B. (2019). *How to use SPSS: A step-by-step guide to analysis and interpretation* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Routledge. (ISBN-13: 9780367355692 – for the paperback version)

This text will be most easily available through the publisher. Here is the URL for the text:  
<https://www.routledge.com/How-to-Use-SPSS-A-Step-By-Step-Guide-to-Analysis-and-Interpretation/Cronk/p/book/9780367355692>

It is available in paperback, hardback, and as an e-version. To explore pricing options, look for this dropdown menu:

Format	Quantity
Paperback	1
was \$69.95	
SAVE \$13.99	USD \$55.96

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## Dr. N's communication plan

- **Announcements**

I generally won't publish Announcements that serve as reminders for due dates. This information will be found in the assignment document as well as on the Assignments page. Instead, I will post announcements if there is a change of plans (e.g., change of content, change of due dates). These will be published when (or if) the need arises.

- **Email**

I'm generally not a big fan of emails. I'm old school in that I believe in stalking one's professor by waiting outside their office until they appear. Even though this generation of students typically doesn't function in this manner, I still expect that you will make every effort to ask me questions before, during, or after class session. Please consult Canvas, and/or read the syllabus and any relevant assignments before asking me questions that can be answered by the resources that are available to you.

Generally, I scroll through my inbox at least once a day. At the beginning of the semester, I can generally respond to your emails within 24 hours. The one exception to this general plan is that I rarely check emails on weekends. So, if you want a prompt response, please make sure to get your email in by 12pm on Friday. But as the semester progresses, my response time increases; so, please plan accordingly.

If you choose to email me, please use my UWSP address (sneumann@uwsp.edu). Do not use Canvas to contact me - I am not in the habit of checking this email folder and I don't want your email to get lost.

I also prefer that all students use proper email etiquette (e.g., a salutation like "Dear Dr. N", complete sentences, grammar that is more formal than that which you would use for texting).

- **Office Hours**

I will hold regular office hours during Lab. Students needing a bit more privacy can set up a Zoom meeting with me. I am also willing to meet with any student at other times in person or via Zoom. Send me an email with some times and I'll set up a meeting time and modality.

- **Assignment Feedback & Grade Posting**

I will try to grade assignments and post grades in Canvas within 48-72 hours.

## What I expect from you

- You will conduct yourself as a **mature adult** during interactions with Dr. N and your peers (e.g., emails and group discussions). I expect that you will come to class having completed required readings, activities, and assignments. Behaviors such as coming to class unprepared, engaging in side conversations, sleeping, and/or disrespecting any member of this class **will not be tolerated**.
- You will conduct yourself in an **honorable manner** when taking exams or completing other forms of work that will be individually evaluated. For more information,

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particularly with regards to cheating and plagiarism, please see the Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook.

- You will ***not buy into the myth*** that it is my responsibility to pass you or to keep you from failing. Whether you pass or fail is up to you.

### What you can expect from me

- I will come to class prepared to teach you to the best of my ability.
- I will answer your questions to the best of my ability.
- I will prepare and grade assignments in a fair manner.
- I will make every attempt to engage you in your learning.
- I will take seriously my responsibility to help you acquire and develop the skills needed to be successful in this course and to give you opportunities to show that you have mastered the content of this course.
- I will contribute to a respectful learning environment. All students will be treated in a fair and respectful fashion in my classroom. Differences based on social identities such as ability, age, country of origin, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, first language, philosophical and political ideology, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and social class are welcomed and honored in my classroom.

### Graded opportunities

You will complete a variety of **activities** (un-graded) and **assignments** (graded). Here is a general list of the types of things you will do. More detailed descriptions will be posted in Canvas as we go.

1. **Chapter quizzes**      **100 points possible (10 quizzes @ 10 points each)**

You will be assigned a set of homework problems for every chapter. You will take a quiz on these problems almost every week. This quiz grade (and not your entire homework set) will count toward your final grade. The first required quiz will cover basic math skills needed for this course; you must then complete 9 of the remaining 13 quizzes. You may take an 11<sup>th</sup> quiz to drop a low score.

2. **Exams**      **150 points possible (3 exams @ 50 points each)**

There will be three exams over the course of the semester. They will be traditional in-class exams and will require you to work with the material both theoretically and computationally. The last exam will be administered during finals week and may be cumulative. Any student whose mobile device sounds or is used during an exam should expect an automatic 10% deduction on that exam.

3. **Lab Assignments**      **TBA points**

This is only Dr. N's second time teaching a lab due to the recent merger with Main campus. The first time was last Spring during the all-online-over-Zoom-adventure-from-he!! Lab didn't go well. So, this semester is just like the first time. Please be patient as Dr. N figure this out.

4. **Extra credit**      **Up to 20 extra credit points toward your final grade**

Extra credit will be offered at a variety of times throughout the semester. Stay tuned.

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## Make-up policy

- **Chapter quizzes & Lab assignments:** Every student starts the semester with a 2-day grace period. These 2 days are yours to use (or not) for any single assignment, or to spread out for multiple assignments. For example, you may turn in 2 quizzes 1 day late each, or 1 lab assignment 2 days late. Once both days are used, no other late assignments will be accepted. Please plan wisely.
  - The first late day begins immediately after the deadline posted in Canvas.
- **Exams:** No make-up exams are given during the semester. Students who miss an exam for some excused reason listed below may make it up during week 15. Make-ups are scheduled around the availability of Dr. N and may not be the same exam that your peers took. There are no make-ups for missed make-ups. Exam 4 cannot be made up as it takes place during finals week.
- **Extra credit:** Extra credit opportunities will not be accepted late. Since these are only extra points, I don't want you wasting your late days on them.

**If you encounter any of the events listed below, please contact Dr. N immediately to arrange a modification to this late policy (if it is properly documented):**

military service, jury duty or other subpoenaed court appearance, inclement weather/college closing, religious observances, federally-protected medical procedures, transfer institution orientation, pregnancy-related complications and childbirth, or illness related to Covid-19 affecting you or a family member.

## Academic misconduct policy

- Any student found to have engaged in academic misconduct, as defined in [UWS 14.03](#), on a graded assignment will be subject to at least one sanction (as allowed by [UWS 14.05](#)) and the disciplinary process specified in UWS 14.06 will be followed.
- Any student found to have engaged specifically in plagiarism will be given the opportunity to repeat the work to be graded on its merits [[UWS 14.05 \(1c\)](#)].
  - Although there are as many ways to plagiarize as there are students, some common examples include an inappropriate number of properly cited direct quotes, sloppy citation format, incorrect citation format, un-cited use of another's work, and purchasing another's work.
- Any student found to have engaged in subsequent acts of academic misconduct, further disciplinary sanctions [e.g., [UWS 14.06](#)] will be pursued.
- Every student has the right to appeal any disciplinary sanction. Please refer to [UWS 14.07 \(5c\)](#).

**IGNORANCE OF PLAGIARISM AND/OR PROPER APA STYLE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS AN EXCUSE. WE WILL REVIEW APA STYLE & DISCUSS WAYS TO AVOID PLAGIARISM, BUT IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SEEK CLARIFICATION IF NEEDED.**

## Final grades

I use a point structure in assigning final grades. To determine your final grade, add up the points you've earned (as posted in Canvas), divide by the number of points possible, and

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then multiply by 100. This will be the percentage of points you've earned. Use this percentage to identify your letter grade.

Grade	% of total points	Grade	% of total points
A	100% - 93%	C+	79% - 77%
A-	92% - 90%	C	76% - 73%
B+	89% - 87%	C-	72% - 70%
B	86% - 83%	D+	69% - 67%
B-	82% - 80%	D	66% - 63%
		D-	62% - 60%
		F	59 % and below

### Course statement of respect for others:

I am a “diversity psychologist”. This is not a traditional sub-field in psychology – it is a given in the field of psychology. Remember: Psychology is the scientific study of humans. All humans, not just select groups of humans that look like us or those with whom we feel most at ease.

Although typical societal and academic discourse about “diversity” focuses almost exclusively on race or gender, we will strive to expand these horizons. Diversity with regard to social identities logically begins with those differences that are readily apparent (e.g., race, gender, sometimes physical ability). But what is often lost is that diversity, by its very definition, is DIVERSE. To that end, I will encourage investigations of a variety of social identities.

As such, it is important to construct a classroom environment that is respectful of and conducive to the learning of ALL THOSE PRESENT. In our efforts to respect and honor each other’s experiences, our guiding mission will be to treat all members of this class, representing diverse backgrounds and social identities including those most saliently based on ability, age, country of origin, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, first language, philosophical and political ideology, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and social class, or any other difference, in a fair and respectful fashion. All opinions will be respected in this class. But those that serve to marginalize any person or group – intentionally or unintentionally – will be challenged.

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