

**SOC 351 SOCIAL STATISTICS**  
**Summer 2023 | Section 1: Online**

**Instructor:** M. David Chunyu, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology  
**Lecture:** Online and asynchronous  
**Lab:** Online and asynchronous  
**My Office:** Science Building (SCI) B335, Main Campus  
**Office Hours:** On Zoom by appointment  
**E-mail:** [dchunyu@uwsp.edu](mailto:dchunyu@uwsp.edu) (please put "SOC 351" in the email subject line)

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

---

This course provides a general introduction to statistical techniques for analyzing social science data. Familiarity with statistics is important for the informed citizen because many social policy debates center on the use of statistical information. Statistics is also a necessary tool for those interested in social research, an increasingly important source of employment opportunities for social science majors.

Students will learn techniques for summarizing data, examining relationships among variables, generalizing from samples to populations, and testing statistical hypotheses.

Learning activities of this course will include lectures, video watching, practice and review exercises, lab activities, and homework assignments.

The laboratory portion of the course is designed to complement the lectures by letting students gain hands-on experience carrying out various kinds of statistical exercises. The main activities will be computer-intensive and will take place in a computer lab (virtual or physical). Students will learn how to use SPSS Statistics, a widely used statistical software for social scientists. We will mainly be using SPSS to analyze data from the General Social Survey (GSS). From time to time, we may also allocate a portion of the lab time for exercises that do not involve computers but are done by hand only.

This course (or PSYC 300) is required for Sociology and Social Work majors.

### **Prerequisites**

MATH 90 or equivalent; or instructor consent.

- ❖ Generally if you can add, subtract, multiply, and divide, and follow simple rules of logical deduction, then you have the tools necessary to succeed in this course. *However,*

*it is imperative that you keep up with the progress of the course at all times!* Due to the extremely technical and cumulative nature of this course, if you fall behind at any stage, it can be difficult to catch up. Therefore, regular class participation, meticulous notes, and timely completion of class and lab tasks and assignments are essential.

## **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

---

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate appreciation for when, why, and how social statistics are used;
2. Articulate the basic concepts and methodological procedures of data analysis, as well as the logic underlying those procedures;
3. Process, analyze, and interpret data for the social sciences [e.g., the General Social Survey (GSS) data];
4. Use statistical software (e.g., SPSS) to conduct basic data analysis;
5. Apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative research methods and research findings;
6. Use and translate quantitative research evidence to inform and improve professional practice, policy, and service delivery;
7. Use professional practice to inform social science inquiry and research.

### **Social Work Competency**

For Social Work majors, all aspects of this course help them work toward the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) competency of “**practice-informed research and research-informed practice**” for accredited social work programs:

- *Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice.*

Social workers understand quantitative and qualitative research methods and their respective roles in advancing a science of social work and in evaluating their practice. Social workers know the principles of logic, scientific inquiry, and culturally informed and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Social workers understand that evidence that informs practice derives from multi-disciplinary sources and multiple ways of knowing. They also understand the processes for translating research findings into effective practice.

## CLASS MATERIALS

---

### Textbook

The following book is required and has been ordered at the university store (please visit <https://www.uwsp.edu/centers/store/Pages/default.aspx> to get the text rental information):

Chava Frankfort-Nachmias, Anna Leon-Guerrero, and Georgiann Davis. 2020. *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society. 9th Edition*. SAGE Publications, Inc.

Students can also access the textbook supplements (just the supplements, not the textbook) at the student study website: <https://edge.sagepub.com/frankfort9e/student-resources>

### Additional Course Materials

Additional course materials (the instructor's lecture slides, videos, datasets and related documentation, practice and review exercises, assignments, website/platform links, etc.) will be delivered online through the online course management system Canvas [canvas.uwsp.edu](https://canvas.uwsp.edu). You will use your UWSP account to login to the course on Canvas. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

### Additional Devices and Software

Each student shall get a calculator with the square and square-root functions. This can be either a conventional standalone calculator like a regular scientific calculator, or a calculator application/app on a computer/tablet/mobile device. A graphing calculator won't be necessary. The calculator will be used for class exercises, lab activities, homework assignments, and exams.

The SPSS software is accessible on all campus computers, so in order to use the software students can either go to a campus computer lab in person (see the main campus lab hours under the "Teaching and Learning Resources" section) or use their home computers to get connected to the UWSP remote computer lab virtually at [remotelab.uwsp.edu](https://remotelab.uwsp.edu).

- ❖ ***Special note:*** In case students want to use the UWSP remote computer lab [remotelab.uwsp.edu](https://remotelab.uwsp.edu), they are recommended to use a PC (with a Windows operating system) rather than a Mac/iPad (with an Apple operating system), because there have been reports that Mac/iPad users tend to have difficulty getting access to the UWSP remote lab.

**Disclaimer:** *It would be OK to use statistical software other than SPSS for course assignments, such as Excel, Stata, SAS, R, etc., but **instructions will only be provided in SPSS**. Therefore, if a student chooses to use non-SPSS software and data format for completing the required coursework, then **it will be students' own responsibility to figure out how to use the non-SPSS software and data format** in order to complete the pertinent course assignments.*

## GRADING

---

A student's final course grade is based entirely on the "TOTAL POINTS" they have earned over the summer session. The "TOTAL POINTS" are simply the total crude points a student has accumulated from homework assignments, plus optional bonus points if applicable, and **summation** is the only mathematical operation used for calculating a student's "TOTAL POINTS". Thus, no percentage, proportion, or division is used in the "TOTAL POINTS" calculation. (**Important note:** *The "Total" % column or other automatically generated columns in the "Grades" area of Canvas will NOT be used, because they reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course. Also see the "Grading Scale" section below.)*

***A student's max TOTAL POINTS consist of the following:***

- ***Homework Assignments***                      ***100 Points***

---

***Max Total = 100 Points***

➤ ***Homework Assignments (100 Points)***

There will be weekly homework assignments throughout the summer session. Some of the assignment tasks are about manual calculations, while others involve using a computer and statistical software to analyze real-world datasets.

Again, in order to use the SPSS software students can either go to a campus computer lab in person (you may have to install SPSS on some of these lab computers yourself if the software program hasn't been installed there already, but that is fairly easy to do) or use their own computers to get connected to the UWSP remote computer lab virtually at [remotelab.uwsp.edu](http://remotelab.uwsp.edu); and in case students want to use the UWSP remote lab they are recommended to use a PC rather than a Mac/iPad. Students can refer to the instructor's video tutorial in Canvas → "06/26 - 07/02: Introduction to the Course" module → "Lab: Introduction" on how to get connected to the UWSP remote lab. Additional information on the UWSP remote lab is available at <https://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ComputerLabs/Remote-Lab.aspx>

All the needed datasets and documentation will be made available in Canvas → “Data” module.

***All homework assignments are due on Sunday night within the week.*** For example, the assignment for the 1st week (06/26 – 07/02: Introduction to the Course & Organization of Information) is due on Sunday (07/02), the assignment for the 2nd week (07/03 – 07/09: Measures of Central Tendency & Measures of Variability/Dispersion) is due on Sunday (07/09), so on and so forth. ***The last day for the instructor to accept any assignment submissions, including late submissions, is August 20, 2023 (Sunday).*** No late submission will be accepted beyond August 20, 2023 (Sunday).

---

***Note:*** For assignment submission to Canvas, students can either type up their work as text or write their work on paper by hand and then upload pictures of their hand-written work. In case students want to submit pictures, students must make sure their pictures are fully legible. Students are recommended to upload pictures as JPG/PNG/PDF/Word files; try to avoid HEIC photos or compressed/zip files please, because HEIC photos and compressed/zip files do not display in Canvas.

---

➤ ***Bonus Points (Optional)***

There might be opportunities for students to earn extra credits/bonus points.

### **Grading Scale**

Again, a student’s final course grade is based entirely on the “TOTAL POINTS” they have accumulated over the summer session. Thus, for calculating a student’s “TOTAL POINTS”, **summation** is the only mathematical operation used; that is, the instructor will simply add up all the points a student has earned from homework assignments, plus optional bonus points if applicable. No percentage, proportion, or division is used in the “TOTAL POINTS” calculation. (***Important note:*** Again, the “Total” % column or other automatically generated columns in the “Grades” area of Canvas will **NOT** be used, because they reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course.)

A student’s “TOTAL POINTS” will then be converted into their final course grade according to the following scale:

A .....	93.00 – 100.00 points	C .....	73.00 – 76.99 points
A-.....	90.00 – 92.99 points	C-.....	70.00 – 72.99 points
B+.....	87.00 – 89.99 points	D+.....	67.00 – 69.99 points
B.....	83.00 – 86.99 points	D.....	60.00 – 66.99 points
B-.....	80.00 – 82.99 points	F.....	0.00 – 59.99 points
C+.....	77.00 – 79.99 points		

## Grade Posting

Students' grade points from homework assignments, plus optional bonus points if applicable, will be posted in Canvas → "Grades" area as soon as they become available. A distinct grade item will also be created in Canvas → "Grades" area to show a student's "TOTAL POINTS" they have accumulated over the summer session. (***Important note:*** *One last time, the "Total" % column or other automatically generated columns in the "Grades" area of Canvas will NOT be used, because they reflect some sort of percentage calculation, which is inconsistent with the grading system of this course. Please also see the preceding "Grading Scale" section for explanation.*) It is a student's own responsibility to check Canvas regularly and to be kept informed of their own grade status.

---

## TECHNOLOGY AND LEARNING RESOURCES

### UWSP Quick Help Resources

Quick links to resource information on Canvas, Zoom, Office 365 suite, accesSPoint, and UWSP library support: [Quick Help Resources](#)

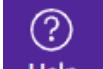
### UWSP Technology Support

- UWSP IT resources and services: [Information Technology](#)
- Seek help from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - IT Service Desk Email: [itsvdesk@uwsp.edu](mailto:itsvdesk@uwsp.edu)

### Main Campus Lab Hours

- CCC 126
  - Monday – Friday 7:00AM – 8:00PM
  - Saturday – Sunday 7:00AM – 7:00PM
- CCC 104 (Library Reference)
  - Monday – Friday 11:00AM – 1:00PM
- DUC 201
  - Monday – Friday 7:30AM – 4:30PM

## Canvas Support

Click on the  button in the global (left) navigation menu and note the options that appear:

Support Options	Explanations
<p><b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> Submit a question to your instructor</p>	Use <b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.
<p><b>Chat with Canvas Support (Student)</b> Live Chat with Canvas Support 24x7!</p>	<b>Chatting with Canvas Support (Student)</b> will initiate a <i>text chat</i> with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level.
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via email</b> Canvas support will email a response</p>	<b>Contacting Canvas Support via email</b> will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via phone</b> Find the phone number for your institution</p>	Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.
<p><b>Search the Canvas Guides</b> Find answers to common questions</p>	<b>Searching the <a href="#">Canvas guides</a></b> connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for <a href="#">Canvas video guides</a> .
<p><b>Submit a Feature Idea</b> Have an idea to improve Canvas?</p>	If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this <b>Submit a Feature Idea</b> avenue.

*All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, he may not be available immediately.*

- Self-train on Canvas through the [Self-enrolling/paced Canvas training course](#)

## Protecting your Data and Privacy

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. <https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests>

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.

- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP)
- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices

## **OTHER CLASS POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS**

---

### **Expected Instructor Response Times**

The instructor will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours, please re-send your email.

---

---

**Note:** If you have a general course question (not confidential or personal in nature), please post it to the Course Q & A Discussion Forum found on the course homepage. I will post answers to all general questions there so that all students can view them. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions too.

---

---

The instructor will attempt to grade assignments within a week, however longer assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

### **Online Classroom Etiquette**

The classroom is a learning environment and an academic community. All members of this community, students and instructor alike, have a special obligation to preserve an atmosphere conducive to the freedom to teach and to learn. What is essential to preserve such freedom is a culture of respect that honors the rights, safety, dignity, and worth of every individual. For that reason, all members of this community are expected to show courtesy, civility, and respect for one another.

Part of that obligation to maintain a positive learning environment is to ensure that the behaviors of any individual do not disrupt the process and flow of teaching and learning. Accordingly, students shall do their best to minimize distractions and disruptions that can interfere with their own learning and that of their peers.

***The instructor reserves the right to restrict a student's participation in class activities if the student behaves in a way that interferes with the academic or administrative functions of the class.***



## **Diversity and Inclusion**

UWSP supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. These differences include race/ethnicity, gender, class, political view, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital or family status, as well as personality, learning styles, and life experiences. It is these very differences among us that enrich our learning environment and make us strong. We expect that students, faculty, administrators, and staff will respect differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other peoples' perspectives, behaviors, experiences, and worldviews may be different from their own.

## **Disabilities/Special Needs**

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and/or special needs. If you have disabilities/special needs affecting your participation in the class and wish to have special accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as soon as possible. DRC will then coordinate with me in helping you receive the proper accommodations and auxiliary aids. DRC is located in room 108 in the Collins Classroom Center (CCC). DRC can also be reached at 715-346-3365 or [drc@uwsp.edu](mailto:drc@uwsp.edu). You can also find more information here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/drc>.

## **Academic Support**

If a student finds it difficult to keep up with the class progress at any point during the semester, they are recommended to seek help from the instructor immediately. When a student comes to meet the instructor in person, the student should bring all the relevant lecture notes and handout materials either in hard copy or on electronic devices in order to facilitate the consultation process.

In addition, students may also use help from the Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC) and discuss their specific needs. TLC is currently located in the Collins Classroom Center (CCC). TLC can also be reached by phone (715) 346-3568 or email [tlctutor@uwsp.edu](mailto:tlctutor@uwsp.edu). You can find more information on TLC here: <http://www.uwsp.edu/tlc>. The tutoring support is usually to be arranged directly between students and TLC staff and the instructor may assist with such arrangements when needed.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is central to the mission of this institution. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated and will receive disciplinary sanctions per the UWSP policies. The UWSP policies regarding

student academic standards and disciplinary procedures can be found here:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>. If I observe academic misconduct, or if suspicions of academic dishonesty are reported to me, I will request that the identified parties to discuss the situation, and then the procedures set out in UWS/UWSP Chapter 14 will be followed.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

It is important you familiarize yourself with the UWSP emergency plan and procedures prior to the occurrence of an emergency. Please go to [www.uwsp.edu/emergency/Pages/emergency-procedures.aspx](http://www.uwsp.edu/emergency/Pages/emergency-procedures.aspx) for details on all emergency responses at UWSP.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

We recognize that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies the lands of the Ho Chunk and Menomonee people. As a university community, it is important for us to acknowledge and honor this ancestral Ho Chunk and Menomonee land and the sacred lands of all indigenous peoples.

*(Continue to next page)*

---

**COURSE OUTLINE**

---

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics/Activities</u>	<u>Reading</u>
<b>Univariate Analysis</b>		
06/26 – 07/02	<p><i>Introduction to the Course</i></p> <p><u>Key Topics:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Research Process and Variables</li> <li>2. Independent and Dependent Variables</li> <li>3. Levels of Measurement</li> <li>4. Discrete and Continuous Variables</li> <li>5. Descriptive and Inferential Statistics</li> <li>6. SPSS and UWSP Remote Lab</li> <li>7. GSS Dataset and Codebook</li> </ol>	Chapter 1.
	<p><i>Organization of Information</i></p> <p><u>Key Topics:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frequency Distributions: Frequencies, Proportions, and Percentages</li> <li>2. Construction of Frequency Distributions by Level of Measurement</li> <li>3. Grouped Data/Distributions: Stated Limits, Real Limits, Midpoints of Class Intervals</li> <li>4. Cumulative Distributions</li> <li>5. Rates</li> <li>6. Reading Statistical Tables</li> <li>7. Graphic Presentations</li> </ol>	Chapter 2.
	<p><i>A Basic Math Review</i></p> <p><u>Key Topics:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inequality Notations</li> <li>2. Square and Square Root</li> <li>3. Order of Operations</li> <li>4. Solving Linear Equations</li> </ol>	Appendix F.

07/03 – 07/09

*Measures of Central Tendency*

Chapter 3.

Key Topics:

1. Mean, Mode, Median
2. Percentiles
3. The Shape of a Distribution
4. Choosing an Appropriate Measure of Central Tendency
5. (Optional) Compute a (Numeric) Median for Grouped Data

*Measures of Variability/Dispersion*

Chapter 4.

Key Topics:

1. The Importance of Measuring Variability/Dispersion
2. IQV, Range, IQR
3. Variance and Standard Deviation
4. Choosing an Appropriate Measure of Variability/Dispersion

**Bivariate Analysis**

07/10 – 07/16

*Bivariate Tables/Cross-Tabulation for Categorical Variables*

Chapter 9.

Key Topics:

1. Constructing a Bivariate Table
2. Analyzing a Bivariate Table
3. Properties of a Bivariate Relationship

*Regression and Correlation for Interval-Ratio Variables*

Chapter 12.

Key Topics:

1. Linear Relationships
2. OLS Regression Line
3. Coefficient of Determination ( $R^2$ )
4. Pearson's Correlation Coefficient ( $r$ )

**Preparation for Inferential Statistics**

07/17 – 07/23      *The Normal Distribution*      Chapter 5.

Key Topics:

1. Properties of the Normal Distribution
2. Areas under the Normal Curve
3. Standard (*Z*) Scores
4. The Standard Normal Table
5. Problem Solving

**Inferential Statistics**

07/24 – 07/30      *Sampling and Sampling Distributions*      Chapter 6.

Key Topics:

1. Population and Sample
2. Probability Sampling
3. The Sampling Distribution
4. The Sampling Distribution of the Mean
5. The Central Limit Theorem

*Estimation*

Chapter 7.

Key Topics:

1. Estimation Defined
2. Confidence Level and Confidence Interval
3. Confidence Intervals for Population Means
4. Confidence Intervals for Population Proportions

07/31 – 08/06      *Testing Hypotheses*      Chapter 8.

Key Topics:

1. The Logic of Hypothesis Testing
2. The Five Steps in Hypothesis Testing
3. *t* Distribution and *t* Test

08/07 – 08/13      *Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)*      Chapter 11.

Key Topics:

1. The Logic of ANOVA
2. The *F* Statistic
3. The Five Steps in ANOVA
4. Post Hoc Test

08/14 – 08/20      *The Chi-Square Test*      Chapter 10.

Key Topics:

1. The Logic of Chi-Square Test
2. Calculation of Chi-Square
3. The Five Steps in Chi-Square Test
4. Follow-Up Analysis (Crosstabulation)
5. Limitations of Chi-Square Test

**08/20      \*\*\* All Coursework Due in Canvas \*\*\***

---

*Unforeseen circumstances may necessitate changes in the course requirements and/or schedules.  
Any changes will be announced in advance.*

---