Instructor: Hyojong Song, Ph.D.
Office: M-0 1.144
Email: hyojong.song@utrgv.edu

Office Hours:
Friday 9:00am-10:00am
Or by appointment

Class Time and Location:
Friday 10:40am-1:10pm
Main #63 1.502, Brownsville Campus

Course Description:
This course examines descriptive and inferential statistics with application to criminology and criminal justice. Topics include levels of measurement, data visualization, central tendency and dispersion, probability, distributions, and various quantitative approaches for hypothesis testing. To understand these topics more effectively, this course also examines mathematical formulas and calculations based on statistical theories and concepts. Applications using statistical packages such as SPSS and EXCEL will be introduced as well.

Learning Objectives:
At the end of this course, students will be able to understand:
1. Features of quantitative information in the field of criminal justice
2. Concepts of units of analysis and levels of measurement
3. What descriptive statistics are and how we can present data distributions
4. What inferential statistics are and how the statistical concepts of probability distributions and confidence of intervals are related to inferential statistics
5. Types of hypothesis testing and its applications depending on data structure and research purposes.

Required Textbook:

Note: Do not purchase/rent the first edition of this book. Make sure that you correctly order the second edition.
Grading Policies:
Your final grade will be based on the sum of the scores of your attendance (30 points), one assignment (70 points), and two exams (100 points each).

Attendance: 30 points
Assignment: 70 points
Midterm Exam: 100 points
Final Exam: 100 points

-------------------------------
Total: 300 points

A: 300-270 points
B: 269-240 points
C: 239-210 points
D: 209-180 points
F: below 179 points

Note: Your final grades are NOT negotiable unless I make an error in calculating your grades.

Attendance:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Two points will be given every week if you attend class. Students who fail to attend the lecture more than FOUR times will be dropped from the course. Students are also encouraged to be on time. If you arrive after the lecture starts, your attendance credit will be deducted one point.

UTRGV's attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations. If students are unable to attend the lecture due to family emergency and medical issues, proper documentation that proves emergent incidents stated above (e.g., doctor's note, etc.) need to be submitted to avoid reduction of absence.

Assignment:
Students are required to complete one assignment in this course. Assignment will include questions about statistical concepts, mathematical solutions, and their applications to criminal justice issues. Assignment is due 11:59pm, November 17. Students must submit the assignment using either a DOC (MS-WORD) or PDF (Adobe) file through Blackboard by the due date. A late assignment will also be acceptable but subject to 10% reduction (7 points) and
must be submitted no later than **11:59pm November 19**. No late assignment will be accepted after November 19.

**Exams:**
Students will take two exams during the semester. Exams will include, but are not limited to multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank questions. Students are strongly encouraged to arrive at the classroom on time for exams. Students more than 15 minutes late will NOT be allowed to take exams. No make-up exams will be given to students except for a few emergent situations that can be proven by proper documentation. Students may bring their basic calculators for exams. However, calculator applications installed on smart-phones, tablets, and laptops are not permitted to use.

**Important Notes:**
1. Students are expected to read assigned chapters prior to every class.
2. Students are encouraged to ask questions if something is unclear about this lecture. Students can use the time after class or office hours. Students may also contact me via email. I will respond to students’ emails within 24 hours unless they are irrelevant to the course or written in a rude/aggressive manner.
3. Students are NOT allowed to use cell-phones during the lecture. This will lead to FIVE points deduction in your final grade every time it is detected.
4. Recording lectures and taking pictures/videos in class are prohibited without my permission.
5. Instructor’s lecture notes will NOT be provided to students.
6. This syllabus is subject to change. If changes are necessary or desired during the course, I will immediately inform students of the change in class as well as via email.

**Course Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/1</td>
<td>Overview of syllabus / Introduction of statistics in criminal justice and criminology</td>
<td>Ch.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>Types of variables, levels of measurement</td>
<td>Ch.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/15</td>
<td>Data distributions and visualization</td>
<td>Ch.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/22</td>
<td>Central tendency and dispersion</td>
<td>Ch.4 and Ch.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Probability and distribution</td>
<td>Ch.6 and Ch.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Covers Ch.1-Ch.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Chapter(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/13</td>
<td>Point estimates and confidence intervals</td>
<td>Ch.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing: Introduction / Chi-square</td>
<td>Ch.9 and Ch.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing: T-test</td>
<td>Ch.11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing: ANOVA</td>
<td>Ch.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing: Correlation / Regression</td>
<td>Ch.13 and Ch.14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>ASC conference - no class</td>
<td>Assignment Due: 11:59pm, Nov. 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24</td>
<td>Thanksgiving - no class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing: Regression (cont'd)</td>
<td>Ch.14 (cont’d)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Covers Ch.8-Ch.14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Students with Disabilities:**
Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. **Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. **Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

**Mandatory Course Evaluation Period:**
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available:

- Fall 2017 Module 1: Oct. 5 – Oct. 11
- Fall 2017 Module 2: Nov. 29 – Dec. 5
- Fall 2017 (full semester): Nov. 15 – Dec. 6
**Scholastic Integrity:**
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

**Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, and Violence:**
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at [www.utrgv.edu/equity](http://www.utrgv.edu/equity), including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

**Course Drops:**
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.