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

Office Hours: Monday 8:00am-9:00am
Or by appointment

Class Time and Location:
Monday and Wednesday 9:25am-10:40am
SABAL HALL #96 1.108, 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, and various statistical approaches and theories for hypothesis testing. To understand these topics more effectively, this course also examines mathematical formulas and calculations based on statistical theories and concepts.

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 and four exams. **Note that your final grades are NOT negotiable unless I make an error in calculating your grades.**

| Attendance: | 30 points |
| Exam 1:     | 60 points |
| Exam 2:     | 60 points |
| Exam 3:     | 60 points |
| Final Exam: | 90 points |
| **Total:**  | **300 points** |

A: 300-270 points  
B: 269.99-240 points  
C: 239.99-210 points  
D: 209.99-180 points  
F: below 179.99 points

**Attendance:**
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. One point will be given every lecture if you attend class. **Students who fail to attend the lecture more than SEVEN times will receive an F unless they drop the course.** Students are also encouraged to be on time and not to leave early. If you arrive after the lecture starts or leave early before the lecture is over, your attendance credit will be deducted a half.

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.

**Exams:**
There will be a total of four exams during the semester. The first three exams will cover two or three chapters, and will not be cumulative. The final exam will be cumulative, covering all the chapters discussed during the whole semester. Exams will include multiple choice and true/false 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. Students are
encouraged to bring their basic calculators for exams. However, calculator applications installed on smart-phones, tablets, and laptops are not permitted to use. **Keep in mind that no make-up exams will be given to students except for a few emergent situations that can be proven by proper documentation (e.g., death of immediate family, admission to a hospital). Make-up exams will only include essay-type questions rather than multiple choice or true/false ones.**

**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. 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.

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 17</td>
<td>Overview of syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 22</td>
<td>Introduction of statistics in criminal justice and criminology</td>
<td>Ch.1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 24 / 29</td>
<td>Types of variables, levels of measurement</td>
<td>Ch.2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 31 / Feb 5</td>
<td>Data distributions and visualization</td>
<td>Ch.3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Covers Ch.1-Ch.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 12/ 14/ 19</td>
<td>Measures of Central tendency</td>
<td>Ch.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 21/ 26/ 28</td>
<td>Dispersion</td>
<td>Ch.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 5</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Covers Ch.4-Ch.5</td>
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<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Probability - Introduction</td>
<td>Ch.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 12/ 14</td>
<td>NO CLASS – Spring Break</td>
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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:

- **Spring 2018 Module 1**
  - February 14 – February 20
- **Spring 2018 Module 2**
  - April 11 – April 17
- **Spring 2018 (full semester)**
  - April 11 – May 2

**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.

Student Services:
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email [ucentral@utrgv.edu](mailto:ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center,
Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

- **Learning center**: BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- **Writing center**: LIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- **Advising center**: BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- **Career center**: BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)