1990-91 Registrar

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

PSYCHOLOGY 309

STATISTICAL METHODS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

W 1990-91

INSTRUCTOR: L. R. ANDREOTTI

OFFICE: D325

PHONE NUMBER: 539-2994

PREREQUISITES

Psychology 260 and Math 30, or consent of the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed to introduce students to the statistical methods which are used by behavioral scientists as they analyze and draw conclusions from research data. Special emphasis will be placed upon psychological investigations.

In general terms, the techniques which will be examined involve the tabular and graphic summarization of data in addition to the numerical description of averages, variability and measures of relationships. There will be a review of basic probability along with a careful examination of our more frequently used theoretical distributions and statistical tests. In addition, students will be introduced to the use of SPSS-X (one of the more widely used statistical packages) on the main-frame computer.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Successful students should be able to perform some elementary analyses of research data and to interpret the results of statistical tests. These students should have demonstrated a conceptual knowledge of the concepts and principles involved. This demonstrated conceptual understanding will involve more than simply calculating the appropriate numerical values. It will also involve a demonstrated ability to provide an accurate verbal description and interpretation of the relevant concepts and statistical tests. In addition, the students will be able to enter data onto the main-frame computer and analyze the data through use of SPSS-X.

TEXT

1. Statistics for the behavioral sciences (2nd Edition) 1988, by F. J. Gravetter and L. B. Wallnau. West Publishing Company.

2. Study Guide to accompany statistics for the behavioral sciences (2nd Edition) 1988, by F. J. Gravetter. West Publishing Company.

3. Introduction to VAX, 1988, Grande Prairie Regional College.

A timetable for the course is provided below. The schedule is tentative. Changes my be announced in class.

DATES	TEXT
Jan. 3	Chapter 1
Jan. 8 - 10	Chapter 2
Jan. 15	Chapter 3
Jan. 17 - 22	Chapters 4 and 5
Jan. 24 - 29	Chapter 6
JAN. 31	EXAM
Feb. 5 - 7	Chapters 7 and 8
Feb. 12	Chapter 9
Feb. 14 - 19	Chapter 10
Feb. 21 - March 5	Chapter 11
March 7 - 12	Chapter 13
MARCH 14	EXAM
March 26 - 28	Chapter 15
April 2 - 4	Chapter 16
April 9 - 11	Chapter 17

Homework assignments from the workbook will be assigned in class. Each assignment will be marked on a six point scale. Late assignments will be penalized by one point for each day that the assignment is late. If the assignment is five or more days late,

it will not be marked; although a note will be made that work was completed. Computer assignments will also be marked on a six point scale, but will be penalized by 2 points for each day that the assignment is late.

GRADING

Marks for the course will be weighted as follows:

January Exam	20%
March Exam	20%
Homework	10%
Computer assignments[1]	10%
Final Exam	30%
Subjective Evaluation[2]	10%
	100%

Nine Point Grading System

SCALE		APPROXIMATE % EQUIVALENT
9		90 - 100
8	Excellent	80 - 89
7		72 - 79
6	Good	65 - 71
5		57 - 64
4	Pass	50 - 56
3	Failure	45 - 49
2	Failure	26 - 44
1		0 - 25

It should be noted that students will be held accountable for lectures delivered in additional to any announcements that will be made during class. If any student is unable to attend a particular class, it will be his/her responsibility to find out what was missed.

If it becomes apparent to a student that s/he will be unable to write an exam at a scheduled time, the student should notify the

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[1]Ten percent of the course grade will be based upon the student's "computer assignments." Half of the mark for "computer assignments" will be based upon a final "computer lab test." Depending upon the progress of the class, the percentage of the mark based upon the "lab test" may be reduced.

[2]As explained in class, no student will receive a mark for subjective evaluation that is lower than the student's weighted marks on the exams, homework, and computer assignments.

instructor immediately[3]. In the event that the student cannot reach the instructor in person, s/he should leave a message for the instructor with the College switchboard (539-2994). If the student is unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time[4], s/he should notify the instructor in advance and submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (see the College calendar Re: deferred exams).

The dates listed on this handout are tentative and are subject to change due to unforseen circumstances. Students should not make plans for travel, holidays, employment, etc., which would interfere with their writing of exams or their participation in other classroom/lab exercises during any scheduled class time. As well, students should not make plans that would conflict with their writing final exams during the scheduled times (times to be announced by the Registrar's office).

Since the information recorded on this sheet will be required by the student throughout the semester, I recommend that precautions be taken to insure that it is not lost.

Students are strongly encouraged to see me after class or in my office (D325) if they are having difficulty in the course or simply wish a further discussion of the material.

STUDENT RECORD OF MARKS ON EXAMS:

February exam_____ March exam_____

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:

CH3 ___ CH4 & 5 ___ C6 ___ CH7 & 8 ___

CH9 ___ CH10___ CH11 ___ CH13___

CH15 ___ CH16 ___

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[3]In order to receive an excused absence on an exam, it is important for the student to contact the instructor, or to leave a message at 539-2994, prior to the time that the exam is to be written.

[4]It should be noted that the final examination timetable will be announced by the Registrar's office.