PSY K300, Spring 2012
Statistical Techniques – Syllabus

CLASS TIME AND PLACE
Section 19241
Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 – 10:45 AM, in room PY 226

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Rick Hullinger
Office: PY 183E
Office Hours:
  Monday, 12:00 – 2:00 PM in PY 392
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TEACHING ASSISTANT INFORMATION
Assistant: Wenyi Zhou
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TEXTBOOK
Nolan and Heinzen Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences
This book is available in three formats:
  – Portal access only (eBook & study aids) (ISBN: 9781429258227)

Why three different versions? The textbook will serve primarily as a reference resource and a study aid, not required reading. However, the text is still required because you will need it in order to have access to the homework problems. If you would like to save a little money and just purchase the portal access, you will have the full ebook through the portal website including access to the end-of-chapter homework problems, so you’ll have everything you should need for the course. If you would like to have a physical copy of the book, that’s fine, too.

You do not have to have access to the web portal for this course, but it does provide useful study aids, so I strongly recommend that you make sure the book you buy comes with portal access.
Copies of the book are available at the IU bookstore and through various online sources. Please contact me immediately if you have any trouble obtaining copies of the textbook.

**HOMEWORK AND EXAMS**
There will be roughly one homework set per week (10 homework sets, total). The homework assignments will be posted on Oncourse, and they will be due on the specified date at the beginning of class. **Late homework will not be accepted.** I will not hand out hard copies of the homework assignments or photocopies of the problems from the textbook. It is your responsibility to get the assignments from Oncourse and to get the problems from the textbook. Graded homework will be handed back in class and homework answer keys will be posted on Oncourse.

Your homework must be neat, well organized and easy to read and follow. Grading statistics homework is tedious at best; please respect our TAs by making it as easy on them as possible by doing the problems in order and clearly marking your final answers. I have given the TAs the ability to deduct points from homework that is particularly disorganized or hard to follow, so it is in your best interest to be clear.

When calculating your final homework score, I will drop your lowest homework grade. The top 9 homework assignments together contribute 30% to your final grade.

There will be four in-class exams during the course of the semester and an optional cumulative final exam during finals week. The four exams are scheduled on the week-by-week schedule found on Oncourse. The schedule is *tentative* and subject to change. However, I will do my best to make sure that the exams are on the dates provided. All exams will be closed-book and closed note, but you will be allowed to have a single 8.5"x11" reference/"cheat" sheet at each exam. Each exam will focus primarily on the new material learned since the previous exam, but questions about older material may be included as well.

The exams are designed to evaluate your knowledge of statistics, not to see how you perform under time pressure. To the best of my ability and schedule constraints, I will allow you to take as much time as you need to finish each exam to your satisfaction. The exams will be written to be completed in the standard class time, but if you want or need more time, I will try to accommodate that. However, if you arrive more than 15 minutes late to a scheduled exam, I will not allocate extra time for you to finish. You will be required to turn in your exam when the last remaining student finishes.

According to the final exam schedule from the Office of the Registrar, the final exam for this course will be given on Tuesday, May 1st, from 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM. The final exam will be a cumulative exam covering the full semester of material and will have a strict two hour time limit.
The final exam is optional: If you are happy with the average of your in-class exam grades, you may choose to skip the final exam. In that case, the in-class exams will contribute 70% to your final grade. If you choose to take the final exam, then your four in-class exams together will account for 45% of your final grade and the final exam will account for 25% of your grade.

If you have a scheduling conflict or cannot take any of the exams at its appointed date and time, you must let me know as soon as possible. With the exception of extreme and unforeseen circumstances, contacting me the day of (or even worse, after) the exam will be considered an unexcused absence and will result in a 0 on the exam.

To recap, your final grade is computed using one of the following formulas:

If you do not turn in the final exam:
- Average of the 9 best homeworks: 30%
- Average of the 4 in-class exams: 70%
- Total: 100%

If you do turn in the final exam:
- Average of the 9 best homeworks: 30%
- Average of the 4 in-class exams: 45%
- Final exam: 25%
- Total: 100%

**Grading Scale:**
- A+: 97%-100%; A: 93%-96%; A-: 90%-92%
- B+: 87%-89%; B: 83%-86%; B-: 80%-82%
- C+: 77%-79%; C: 73%-76%; C-: 70%-72%
- D+: 67%-69%; D: 63%-66%; D-: 60%-62%
- F: Below 60%

**EXTRA CREDIT**
“The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.” – Herbert Spencer

**I do not offer any extra credit in this course.** If you put all of the effort that you might invest in worrying about extra credit and proposing extra credit ideas into making sure that your assignments are done and done well the first time, you’ll achieve much better results.

**CLICKERS**
Clickers (Turning Technologies Response Card keypads) will be used in this class, and I **require** that you have one. I recommend the ResponseCard NXT so that you can respond to both multiple-choice and numeric questions. However, if you already own the RF keypad or cannot afford the NXT, you may use the RF keypad. I do not intend to use the clickers to take attendance or for graded in-class quizzes. Instead, they will be used as a way for me to get instant, anonymous feedback about whether you understand the concepts being taught, and to quickly collect data for in-class experiments and examples. If it appears that many of you are not bringing your clickers
to class with you, I do reserve the right to change my policy to encourage clicker compliance.

**Respect**

In order for this class to work well, there must be a certain level of respect between you and me and between you and your fellow classmates. Please be smart with your in-class behavior. If you have to arrive late, enter quietly and sit in the back. If you believe that you may leave early, please sit in the back and slip out quietly. Please turn off your cell phones and do not text-message your friends while I’m teaching. If you are being disruptive to the class, I will ask you to leave.

**Feedback**

Do not wait until the end of the semester course evaluations to let me know that I could be doing something better. Tell me as soon as possible so that I can make the class valuable and relevant as we go along.

If you have any feedback, good or bad, about the course or how it’s being taught, please feel free to send it to me *anonymously* using this link: [http://www.indiana.edu/~rahteach/feedback.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~rahteach/feedback.html)

**Academic Honesty**

This course is conducted under the University's Ethics Code. Specifically, it is considered cheating if you obtain any kind of information about answers and solutions to the assignments in this course – exams and Homework – from any non-intended source (including your peers) or conversely transfer such information to others. It is also considered cheating if you lie to me about an absence relating to a homework assignment or an exam. The punishment for academic dishonesty is **failure of the course**.

**Class Recordings**

I will be using a course capture system that allows us (me and UITS) to audio- and video-record and distribute lectures to you in a secure environment.

Because we will be recording in the classroom, your questions or comments may be recorded. You may watch recordings online, or download them for off-line viewing on your computer, smartphone, or media player. These recordings are copyrighted by me, and provided by me and the University solely for your personal use in connection with your academic coursework at IU. You may not share them with students outside the classes for which they are provided, or anyone else, or post them to another website (including YouTube, Facebook, BlipTV, or any other site) without express, written permission from your instructor. You may not retain the recordings after the course is over. Please be aware that any unauthorized use, copying, or distribution of these recordings may result in disciplinary action and may also lead to civil or criminal penalties.

Due to possible unforeseen technical issues, we cannot guarantee that all class sessions will be properly recorded. It is important that you attend class, actively
participate, and take notes. If you miss a class session, you cannot assume that a recording will be available.

**STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact IU Disability Services for Students.

**ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**
-- I do not take attendance. While I expect students to attend and participate in class, I understand that there will be times when you cannot make it. Realize, however, that what we cover in class is important and that you will still be held responsible for any materials we cover.
-- There is no curve and in general I do not round up.

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Copyright Richard A. Hullinger, 2012. All federal and state copyrights in my lectures and course materials are reserved by me. You are authorized to take notes in class for your own personal use and for no other purpose. You are not authorized to record my lectures or to make any commercial use of them whatsoever. You are not authorized to provide them to anyone else other than students currently enrolled in this course, without my prior written permission. In addition to legal sanctions for violations of copyright law, students found to have violated these prohibitions may be subject to University disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct. If I find that my course materials are being made available to others in violation of this policy, I reserve the right to limit or remove access to all slides, notes, review materials and lecture recordings.

**DISCLAIMER**
This syllabus is an outline of the course and its policies, which may be changed for reasonable purposes during the semester at the instructor’s discretion. You will be notified in class and / or via email if any changes are made to this syllabus, and an updated syllabus will be provided on Oncourse.
TIPS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL STUDENT

1. **Come to class!** Statistics is a very important piece of many curricula, including psychology, since statistical inference is a fundamental component of scientific research. In this course, each step tends to build upon the previous concepts. So, if you miss classes, you will get lost quickly.
2. For the same reason, **please ask questions in class** if concepts are unclear.
3. **Do the homework.** That sounds obvious, but every semester several students fail the course only because they did not turn in several homework assignments. Take the homework seriously. You will regret it if you do not.
4. **Get started on homework early** so that you have time to get any questions answered.
5. I encourage you to **work in small groups** doing your homework assignments and studying for the exams. Working in groups tends to help solidify your understanding of the material. However, your homework must be your own work. You cannot put multiple names on a single homework or photocopy homework and turn it in as your own.
6. **Bring your calculator to the exams!** Yes, calculators are allowed, but **no cell phone calculators on the exams.** I may not be able to lend you a calculator if you forget yours.
7. Feel free to contact me. My office hours are listed above. **You do not need an appointment to come see me during office hours.** If you need to see me outside office hours, send me an email, and we’ll set up a time to meet.
8. **Please turn off all cell phones** during class time.
9. All Indiana University policies will be respected and followed in this class.