Criminal Justice Statistics (CJUS 5750.001) Syllabus
Spring Semester 2019, T 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM, CH 274

Instructor: Dr. Mark Saber
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Office: Chilton Hall 263G
Office Hours: R 1:30pm – 2:30pm, by appointment

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 5750) in the subject line of the mail. Only emails sent through your Eagle Connect email account (username@unt.edu) will receive a response. You can expect to receive a response within 48 hours during the week and 72 hours on the weekend. If you have not received a response within that time, please email me back as it may have gotten lost.

Email me directly do not use Canvas Inbox.

Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

Course Description:
This introductory graduate-level statistics course is geared to the consumption of statistical methods commonly used in criminal justice research. Topics include creating and interpreting graphical and tabular summaries of data, descriptive statistics, basic probability theory, sampling distributions, basic hypothesis testing (t-tests, chi-square tests, and analysis of variance), and estimation of population parameters, confidence intervals, and correlation. An introduction to OLS regression and logistic regression analysis will also be provided. Topics are supported by computer-supported data analyses.

Student Learning Objectives/ Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of the course, students will become

1. Acquainted with common statistics used in criminal justice
2. Will learn to compute these basic statistics as appropriate for the data at hand
3. Most importantly, the student will become an educated consumer of statistical information, and the ability to apply what is learned in class to statistical information presented in everyday life and in the course of education in criminal justice
4. The student will become familiar with the computer tools used to complete basic and advanced statistical analyses in criminal justice.
5. Finally, students will have a sound foundation in the mathematical skills required for criminal justice research.

Required Materials:
Textbook:
Calculator:
No need for an expensive graphing calculator. Simple arithmetic functions, as well as ability to take square
roots and raise numbers to powers will be helpful. For example, the Texas Instruments Ti-30Xa costs under $10. If
you have or purchase a graphing calculator, you will not be allowed to use any of the statistical functions of
the calculator. The use of statistical functions will be considered academic dishonesty/cheating.

Additional readings will be discussed/assigned during the class and may require a visit to the university library.

Suggested Materials:
While various statistical programs will be demonstrated/utilized by the students and can be purchased by the
student, it is recommended that students use the various computer labs, and not purchase a specific statistical
package.

Software: SPSS and STATA will be used for this class. You can purchase a temporary license for SPSS for about
$50.00 (https://store.thinkedu.com/statistics-math-c34.aspx) or STATA for $45.00
(https://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/student-pricing/).

If students do not wish to purchase a temporary license for the statistical packages, you can use the latest
version of SPSS that is available in the computer labs located in Chilton 270 and 274. STATA is more limited
concerning on campus availability. These statistical programs will be utilized to familiarize students with
different statistical packages that are available.

Laptops
Students will also be able to sign out laptops from the kiosk, located outside of the classroom, these laptops will
have copies of SPSS and STATA. It is highly recommend that you sign out a laptop prior to each class.

Method of Evaluation

Quizzes: There will be 9 quizzes during the semester worth, in total, 50% of your overall grade. Quizzes will be
administered at the beginning of class (see Course Schedule) and make-up quizzes will not be given. Each quiz
will be time (1 hour to complete), will start at the beginning of class, is open book/notes, and the use of a
calculator is allowed. No statistically functions of the calculator can be used during a quiz and you are not
allowed to use various statistical software packages (SPSS, STATA, R, MS Excel, etc) to complete a quiz. Once
the first quiz is turned in no other quizzes will be handed out.

Course Project: Students will complete a two-part course project based on a data set provided to the class.
The course project will consist of two parts: write-up and PowerPoint. Overall, the course project is worth 50% of
your overall grade. Remember, an introduction and literature reviews is not required for this assignment. All
statistical analysis will occur using SPSS or STATA no hand calculated statistics will be used in this project.

Write-up: (25% of your overall course grade)
Student will create an academic style write up of their final course project. The paper will consist of a methods
and results section. In the methods section you will describe the data set and your sample, you will identify your
DV, IVs, and CVs, you will discuss coding and recoding, you will provide descriptive statistics on all of your
variables, you will create tables for the variables used in your analysis, and you will write up your method of
statistical analysis. In the results section you will write out the results of your statistical analysis and provide
table(s) of your model(s). Overall, this write-up should be 3 - 5 pages long (it can be longer if needed). There is
no need for outside references in this write-up (scholarly journals or otherwise), you can use your textbook and
outside readings to justify your statistical methods. You are not required to locate sources to justify your
variables, etc.
**PowerPoint:** (25% of your overall course grade)

Students will create a PowerPoint presentation of their course project and present it to the class. In this presentation you will talk about your DV, IVs, and CVs, provide descriptive statistics of your variables, provide alternative descriptive statistics (when needed), talk about your methods to include your data set and plan of analysis, and you will present and discuss your results. Your presentation will last between 10 and 15 minutes. Presentation order will be determined via random drawing, you must be present when your name is called or you will receive a 50% point reduction for this portion of the Course Project.

**Course total based on assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Quizzes</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Course Project: Write-up</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Course Project: PowerPoint</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Missing two classes will result in a one-letter grade reduction in your overall course grade.*

*Missing three or more classes will result in an F in the course.*

Course grades will be calculated using the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% or Below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There is no extra credit offered in this course*

**Grade related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Canvas.**

*** Grades are rounded to the nearest whole number, no additional rounding will occur.***

**Late Work**

Late work is not accepted. All late assignments will receive a zero. All due dates are listed in the syllabus and ample time is provided to complete the assignments.

**Makeup Policy**

Make-ups are only considered with a documented University excused absence, if the student contacts the instructor one week prior to the due date of the assignment.

**Attendance Policy**

Students should attend class every day having completed and being prepared to discuss the readings for that week. If a student must miss a class, they should discuss the missed materials with a classmate, as the instructor will not repeat information covered in class due to absence.

*Missing two classes will result in a one-letter grade reduction.*
**Missing three or more classes will result in an F in the course.**

Students that have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of "F". Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" is February 22, 2019.

**Acceptable Student Behavior in the Classroom**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.deanofstudents.unt.edu](http://www.deanofstudents.unt.edu)

The use of cell phones during class, whether texting or otherwise, is distracting to both me as an instructor and the other members of the class. If I see one in use and we are not engaged in an activity where the use of such a device is necessary, I will assume it is being used to fact check something we are discussing and I will most certainly involve the user in the discussion. If you are contacted regarding an emergency during class, quietly excuse yourself and attend to the call then. **Please be respectful of others and refrain from cell phone use during class.**

**Additional Classroom Policies**

Recording devices are not allowed in the classroom unless specifically approved by the instructor. Tobacco products of any kind (including e-cigs) are not allowed in the classroom.

Cell phones, pagers, or any other electronic device that makes noise should be turned off before class. Due to liability concerns and the content of course discussions, children are not permitted in the classroom at any time. Laptops and similar devices can be used during class as long as they are used for taking notes and/or other related classroom functions. If used for surfing the web, instant messaging, sending emails or otherwise, they will not be allowed in the classroom.

Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

**Academic Integrity**

Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies:

[http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf)

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

A. Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B. Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:

   1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
   2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C. Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D. Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F. Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

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**Student Evaluation of Instructor (SPOT)**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

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**ADA Statement and Disabled Student Policy**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault**

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT
has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT’s Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

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**Course Calendar and Topics**

Dates, topics, and exams are listed below. Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, any schedule changes as well as the assigned readings as we progress through the course. This is a tentative schedule and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester.

**Assignments & Academic Calendar:**

**Week 1 (1/15/19)**
- Introduction, Syllabus, Quizzes, Course Data Set, and Course Project
- Chapter 1: Statistics or Sadistics

**Week 2 (1/22/19)**
- Chapter 2: Measures of Central Tendency
- Chapter 3: Measures of Variability
- Chapter 4: Tables and Graphs
- Introduction to SPSS and STATA

**Week 3 (1/29/19)**
- Quiz 1: Chapters 2, 3, and 4
- Chapter 5: Correlations
- Chapter 6: Reliability and Validity
- Chapter 7: Null and Research Hypothesis
- Course Data Set

**Week 4 (2/5/19)**
- ICJSF
- Work on Course Project

**Week 5 (2/12/19)**
- Quiz 2: Chapters 5, 6, and 7
- Chapter 8: Standard Normal Curve
- Chapter 9: Statistical Significance
- Course Data Set

**Week 6 (2/19/19)**
- Quiz 3: Chapters 8 and 9
- Chapter 15: Relationships Using the Correlation Coefficient
- Course Data Set
**Week 7 (2/26/19)**
- Quiz 4: Chapter 15
- Chapter 17: Chi-Square
- Course Data Set

**Week 8 (3/5/19)**
- Quiz 5: Chapters 17
- Chapter 10: One Sample z-Test
- Course Data Set

**Week 9 (3/12/19)**
- Spring Break – No Class – University Closed

**Week 10 (3/19/19)**
- Quiz 6: Chapter 10
- Chapter 11: Independent t-Test
- Chapter 12: Dependent t-Test
- Course Data Set

**Week 11 (3/26/19)**
- Quiz 7: Chapters 11 and 12
- Chapter 13: ANOVA
- Course Data Set

**Week 12 (4/2/19)**
- Quiz 8: Chapter 13
- Chapter 16: OLS Regression
- Handout: Logistic Regression
- Course Data Set

**Week 13 (4/9/19)**
- Logistic Regression
- Course Data Set

**Week 14 (4/16/19)**
- Quiz 9: Chapter 16 and Logistic Regression
- Course Data Set

**Week 15 (4/23/19)**
- Course Project Due
  - **Write-up** (Hardcopy Only) – due during the first 10 minutes of class, after 2:10pm the assignment is late and will receive a zero
  - **PowerPoint** (emailed) – due at 11:59pm via email, late PowerPoint’s will receive a zero

**Week 16 (4/30/19)**
- Student PowerPoint Presentations

**Week 17 (5/7/19)**
- Finals Week
The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor