

Bemidji State University

SOC 3001: Social Statistics

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 0

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Covers a conceptual understanding of basic descriptive and inferential statistics. Choice of statistic and interpretation of SPSS results is discussed. Prerequisite: Completion of Liberal Education mathematics requirement (Goal Area 4) or consent of instructor.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to the course
2. Functions of statistics, basic math review; levels of measurement
3. Proportions, percentages, rates and ratios, percentage change
4. Frequency distributions; SPSS and frequency distributions
5. Charts and Graphs; SPSS and charts and graphs
6. Measures of Central Tendency and SPSS
7. Measures of Dispersion and SPSS
8. The Normal Curve
9. Introduction to Inferential Statistics, the Sampling Distribution, and Estimation
10. Hypothesis testing
11. Introduction to Bivariate Association and Measure of Association for Variables Measured at the Nominal Level
12. Association between variables measured at the ordinal level
13. Association between variables measured at the interval-ratio level

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. be able to determine, calculate, and interpret statistics that describe distributions;
2. be able to report statistical findings in a professional manner;
3. be able to describe the properties of the normal curve as it pertains to statistical decision making;
4. be able to understand the key concepts and procedures related to generalizing from samples to populations;
5. be able to determine, calculate, and interpret select statistics used for hypothesis testing and testing the existence and strength of relationship between two variables;
6. be able to assess data quality and its relationship to choice of statistic;
7. be able to use SPSS as a software tool to conduct statistical analyses.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted