Bemidji State University

SOC 3001: Quantitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: None
Covers statistics as applied to social science research. Includes data collection, sampling, analysis, description, inference, and interpretation. Also features guidance on how statistics are (mis)used in public venues, specifically in terms of social science data.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/02/2023 - 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. determine, calculate, and interpret statistics that describe distributions.
2. report statistical findings in a professional manner.
3. describe the properties of the normal curve as it pertains to statistical decision making.
4. understand the key concepts and procedures related to generalizing from samples to populations.
5. determine, calculate, and interpret select statistics used for hypothesis testing and testing the existence and strength of relationship between two variables.
6. assess data quality and its relationship to choice of statistic.
7. 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