



Brescia University College
Department of Sociology

SOC 2205A – 530: Statistics for Sociology
Summer Intersession 2020 (Online)

General Information

Course Number: Sociology 2205A
Section Number: 530
Term & Year: Summer Intersession 2020
Course Duration: May 11 – May 29
Course Location: Online (<http://owl.uwo.ca>)

Instructor Information

Name: Professor Michael Rooyakkers
Email: mrooyakk@uwo.ca
Virtual Office Hrs: Tuesday & Thursday 3:00-4:00PM EDT (or by appointment)
Office Location: Collaborate UE Tool on OWL

Course Description

Inquiry in Sociology consists of theory, research methodology and statistics. The department of Sociology requires that all students who major or specialize in Sociology take Sociology 2205, the introductory course in statistics. In this course, students will discover how one analyses the information obtained from various quantitative methodological techniques.

The course is divided into two major topics: descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics involve procedures that we use to summarize or describe data, and includes a review of elementary mathematical concepts, the construction and interpretation of tables and graphs, and measures of central tendency and dispersion. Inferential statistics address the question of how well data drawn from a sample can be generalized to an entire population, and includes estimation and hypothesis testing.

While it is important to note that this course does not require a strong mathematics background, recent secondary school mathematics or a university course will be an asset. Any student who is concerned about this aspect of the course should speak to me as soon as possible. Students are expected to understand simple mathematical procedures and to own (and know how to operate) a calculator that has the capacity to perform exponentiation and square roots. A memory register would be useful. Complex calculators are not required.

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% average in 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level, or Thanatology 1025A/B.

Antirequisite(s): Biology 2244A/B, Economics 2122A/B, 2222A/B, Geography 2210A/B, Health Sciences 3801A/B, MOS 2242A/B, Psychology 2810, Psychology 2820E, Psychology 2830A/B, Psychology 2850A/B, Psychology 2851A/B, Social Work 2207A/B, Statistical Sciences 2035, Statistical Sciences 2141A/B, Statistical Sciences 2143A/B, Statistical Sciences 2244A/B, Statistical Sciences 2858A/B.

Required Course Materials

1. **Textbook:** *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research (4th Canadian Edition)* by Joseph F. Healey, Steven G. Prus, and Riva Lieflander. Nelson Education. ISBN-13: 978-0-17-672508-2

An e-book version is available online directly from the publisher

(https://www.nelson.com/catalogue/productOverview.do?N=197+4294967291+4294942505&Ntk=P_EPI&Ntt=1237132297360569238279638767373396060&Ntx)

OR will also be available at the Book Store at Western website

(www.bookstore.uwo.ca). The current 4th Canadian edition of the text is required.

2. **Calculator:** A calculator with exponential and square root functions is also required (for use during the course and during the final exam.)

Learning Outcomes & Brescia Competencies

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

(Brescia Competencies to which each learning outcome applies indicated in parentheses. Brescia competencies include Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry and Analysis, Problem Solving, Self-Awareness and Development, Social Awareness and Engagement, and Valuing: <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/brescia-competencies/>)

- 1) Distinguish between descriptive and inferential statistics and identify problems related to each (*Inquiry & Analysis; Critical Thinking*);
- 2) Choose the appropriate statistical tool for a variety of research problems (*Problem Solving; Critical Thinking*);
- 3) Carry out basic statistical analyses for both descriptive and inferential problems and interpret their results (*Inquiry & Analysis; Communication; Problem Solving*);
- 4) Read both scientific and popular press reports of research findings more critically, identifying both good and bad analyses and interpretations (*Critical Thinking; Inquiry & Analysis*);
- 5) Understand the meaning of published research results and use those results to make informed choices and decisions (*Social Awareness & Engagement*);
- 6) Consider social issues in which they are interested and could attempt to understand & address through the use of statistics (*Social Awareness & Engagement; Valuing; Inquiry & Analysis*); and
- 7) Undertake further training in statistics (*Self Awareness & Development*)

Teaching Methodology and Expectations of Students

Teaching methods will include OWL lessons, consisting of lecture videos, ungraded quizzes, practice problems, and other activities. The lessons will include material from your readings as well as some material not covered in your readings.

Regular engagement with the course material is essential to learning at the university level, especially in an online course like this one. Considerable practice of important concepts occurs in the lessons, and each element of the course serves as a building block for what follows. I strongly encourage you to engage with course material regularly, closely following the suggested dates in the course schedule, in order to maximize your opportunities to learn.

Therefore, given the condensed nature of this course, it is strongly encouraged that you treat this course as a full-time responsibility for the duration of the course, and that for each topic:

- You read the assigned textbook material closely
- You complete the associated OWL lesson
- Spend time practicing using the practice problems I have provided you (as well as the practice problems available to you at the end of each chapter in the text)

In the OWL lessons, you will be provided with opportunities to actively engage with the material. The more involved you are with the course and with the readings, the better your experience and learning will be.

A calculator and the course textbook are essential for this course. A calculator will be necessary for completing lessons and practice problems. In addition to the assigned chapters in the textbook, the appendices also contain important information that we will often refer to in your lessons in order to complete activities, including practice problems.

1. How to Contact Me & Class Website (OWL)

If you have a question or would like to discuss course material with me, there are several avenues through which you can contact me:

1. **Virtual Office Hours** – You may come see me during virtual office hours. I will hold scheduled virtual office hours every Tuesday & Thursday from 3:00-4:00PM EDT. I will also be available to meet with you by appointment. You may book a virtual appointment with me through email or OWL messages (and we will arrange to meet at a mutually convenient time).
2. **Email** – If you wish to reach me via email, please be advised that I will respond to your message within 24 hours. I endeavor to respond to emails quickly. Emails sent before 5:00pm on a weekday will usually receive a same-day response. Emails sent on the weekend may not receive a response until Monday. Please also note that complex questions are difficult to answer via email, and so these questions are best asked during virtual office hours rather than through email.

3. **OWL Messages** – Like emails, I will respond to your OWL message within 24 hours (and endeavor to respond sooner than that). Similarly, complex questions are best asked during virtual office hours.

II. Class Website (OWL)

OWL (owl.uwo.ca) contains our course site. When you arrive at owl.uwo.ca, you will need to select our course site from the “Sites” drop-down menu. You can “Favourite” our course site, by selecting the star icon beside the course name. In a computer browser, this will make it so that our course site is listed at the top of OWL and can be easily selected.

III. Virtual Office Hours

Virtual office hours will take place using Collaborate on our OWL course site. When viewing our course site in a computer browser, you will find this tool (“Collaborate UE”) among the menu/tabs on the left-hand side of our course page. When viewing our course site on a mobile device, make sure you have selected our course site, and then select the “Tools” menu. This will provide you with a drop-down menu – select “Collaborate UE”.

To join an office hours session, select that session and choose “Join Session”. You will be able to join starting 15 minutes before office hours start, and at any time during the session. When you join, your browser may ask you to set up your audio and video. Within Collaborate, there is also a whiteboard tool that is often helpful for guiding students through problems. Should you have any issues using Collaborate, please don’t hesitate to ask me for help.

IV. Email Communications

Email is one of our primary means of communication, and thus it is important to regularly check your Western email. If you are contacting me by email, please use your Western email address, and include “SOC 2205” in the subject line, followed by a description of your enquiry (e.g. “SOC 2205: Question about final exam”).

Generally speaking, you should expect that I will respond to your email enquiries within 24 hours. I will try my best to respond to email enquiries as soon as possible on weekdays. Anything later than 5:00pm on a weekday may not get answered until the following day. While I do check my email on the weekend, I can’t promise to respond right away. If you send me email on the weekend, it may not get a response until Monday.

V. Grades

Grades for all course components, and final course grades, will be posted on OWL under ‘Gradebook’. Please note that I cannot assign “extra work” in order to improve one’s grade, or adjust grades on the basis of “need” – this would be unfair to the other students in the class who aren’t given this opportunity. Your final grade in the course will

consist solely of your performance on the stated course requirements – the two assignments and the final exam (please refer to the course evaluation section below).

Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction through audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on course-sharing websites is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions.

Course Evaluation

1. Assignments

In a course such as this, regular practice and feedback are the best ways to ensure that the student has mastered the material covered. This feedback will be accomplished, in part, through two assignments. The assignments will consist of problems, typical of those that you will engage with in the lessons and through practice. The dates on which the assignments will be made available to you, and the dates on which they are due, are as follows:

	<u>Available on OWL:</u>	<u>DUE:</u>
Assignment #1	May 11, 2020	May 15, 2020 by 11:59PM EDT
Assignment #2	May 19, 2020	May 29, 2020 by 11:59PM EDT

Each assignment is worth **20%** of your final grade, for a total of 40%. Assignments are due on OWL (using the “Assignments” tab) on or before the due dates. Specific guidelines for how to submit your assignments will be provided to you on OWL. Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 10 percent per day late. Any assignment not received within 3 days of the due date will receive a grade of zero (0).

While it is expected that students will discuss the assignments amongst themselves, all work submitted shall be the work of the individual student. Copying another student’s work is unacceptable. Students who plagiarize each other’s work will receive a grade of zero. Students should familiarize themselves with their rights and responsibilities, as outlined in Western’s Academic Calendar, including what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

2. Final Exam

The final examination will be on **Tuesday, June 2nd** (on OWL, time TBD). You will be given **THREE** hours to complete this exam. The exam will cover **ALL** of the materials of the course. The final exam is worth **60%** of the final grade.

Evaluation Breakdown

Assessment/Component	Date/Deadline	Weight
Assignment #1	May 15 by 11:59PM EDT	20%
Assignment #2	May 29 by 11:59PM EDT	20%
Final Exam	June 2	60%

Academic Accommodation

For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

Course Schedule

The following schedule provides an outline of the topics to be covered in the course and provides suggested dates for completing the OWL lesson for each topic. Given the condensed nature of this course, it is strongly encouraged that you follow this schedule closely. If you fall behind in learning the material of the course, it can be difficult to catch up.

DATE (SUGGESTED)	TOPICS	READINGS
May 11	<i>Introduction to course</i> Descriptive Statistics: The basics & level of measurement	Prologue Chapters 1 & 2
May 12	Descriptive Statistics: Measures of central tendency and dispersion	Chapter 3
May 13	The Normal Distribution: Z-scores & Estimation using the normal curve	Chapter 4
May 14	Introduction to Inferential Statistics: Sampling and the sampling distribution	Chapter 5
May 15	ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE (20%) – Ch 1,2,3,4	
May 18	Victoria Day – Take a break from course work ☺	
May 19	Estimation Procedures	Chapter 6
May 20	Introduction to Hypothesis Testing; Hypothesis Testing with Means and Proportions: The one-sample case	Chapters 7 (<i>up to end of sec 7.4</i>) & Chapter 10

May 21	Hypothesis Testing with Means and Proportions: The two-sample case	Chapter 11
May 25	Hypothesis Testing with Nominal and Ordinal Variables: Bivariate tables & Chi-square	Chapter 7 (sec 7.5 onwards)
May 26	Measures of Association for Nominal Variables	Chapter 8
May 27	Measures of Association for Ordinal Variables	Chapter 9
May 28	Hypothesis Testing and Measures of Association for Interval-Ratio Variables <i>Course wrap up</i> <i>Final exam review (as time permits)</i>	Chapter 13
May 29	ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE (20%) – Ch 5,6,7,8,9,10,11	
June 2	FINAL EXAM (60%) - 3 hours	

Notes:

1. Readings are from the text by Healey, Prus, and Lieflander, 4th Canadian Edition.
2. The topics are covered in the order listed, and the dates listed are meant as a guideline for you to complete the OWL lesson for each topic in a timely manner.
3. Chapters 12 and 14 from the text will not be covered in this course; you are not responsible for this material.

2019-20 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS**1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12.

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&Command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;

2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form** to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;

3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to the [Registrar's website](#), <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Mental Health & Wellness at Brescia** (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.
