PSYCHOLOGY 274

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COURSE OUTLINE

The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the basic principles, concepts and methods used to characterize and compare groups of individuals. Included are graphical methods for summarizing data, measures of location and scale, basic probability, descriptions of discrete and continuous random variables, sampling distributions, the basics of hypothesis testing, one-way ANOVA, multiple comparisons, basic regression, the analysis of categorical data, and methods based on ranks. A fundamental goal is understanding how to interpret standard methods correctly, which includes avoiding common misinterpretation that have been revealed by some modern insights.

A quiz is given after each chapter is covered in class. It is graded pass/fail. If you fail, you can hand in a take-home, make-up quiz and get a pass. The quizzes can raise your grade but they can’t lower it. You get a bonus point on each exam if you turn in all of the quizzes prior to the exam. For example, the first exam covers chapters 2-4. If you pass all three quizzes based on these chapters, you get an extra point on the first midterm. Any corrections for the final set of quizzes must be turned in by the last class meeting.

Grades are based on the percentage of total points possible. A=92%, A-=90%, B+=88%, B=82%, B-=80%, etc.

There is a website for USC students to find or offer tutoring to each other via USC.YourCollegeTutors.com

SOFTWARE: This course uses R. The focus is on learning how to apply standard methods using R. But by learning R, students will be able to apply recently developed methods, not covered in this course, that provide substantially improved techniques for detecting and describing differences among groups and associations among variables that are generally impossible to apply using SPSS. A second reason for using R is that, from the point of view of teaching basic concepts, it has advantages over SPSS.

THE FINAL IS GIVEN ON THE DAY INDICATED BY THE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.
From the USC grade handbook: No student in a course with a final examination is permitted to omit the final examination or take it prior to its scheduled date, and no instructor is authorized to permit a student to do so.

Homework

Ch 2: 1-5, 7-11, 13-16, 18, 20-26, 27, 29, 32, 33, 35-37.

Ch 3: 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 18.

Ch 4: 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9-11, 13, 14, 17-26, 29, 30, 33-35, 38-40, 46, 48, 50, 54, 57-59, 61, 62.

Ch 5: 1-4, 6, 7-11, 14, 16-19, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29.

Ch 6: 1-5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 21-23, 26, 29, 30, 32, 35, 39, 40.

Ch 7: 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15-17, 20-22, 25, 33.

Ch 8: 1-4, 13, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25-27, 31-33, 36.

Ch 9: 1-5, 11, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21-30

Ch 10: 1, 3, 5, 9, 12, 14, 16-17, 19-21,

Ch 11: 1-3, 8, 12, 13, 17-19.

Ch 12: 1-3, 5-7, 10-13,

Ch 13: 1-6, 8, 14, 16

There are three exams: two midterms and a final. Each counts about 30% toward your grade and the lab counts 10%. The first exam covers chapters 2-4, the second covers chapters 5-8, and the final covers chapters 9-13. Evaluations are done on the last day of class.

Students who need to request accommodations based on a disability are required to register each semester with the Disability Services and Programs. In addition, a letter of verification to the instructor from the Disability Services and Programs is needed for the semester you are enrolled in this course. If you have any questions concerning this procedure, please contact the course Disability Services and Programs at (213) 740-0776, STU 301.

Statement on Academic Integrity:

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one.s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another.s work as one.s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, the Student
Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/.