

PSYCHOLOGY 274

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Text: Understanding and Applying Basic Statistical Methods Using R by Rand Wilcox, Wiley.

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 misinterpretations that have been revealed by some modern insights.

There are four exams: three midterms and a final. The total number of points for the exams varies; typically the total possible is between of 90-100. The lab is worth 10 points. For example, if your total for the exams is 95 and you get 85% on the lab, your final total is $95 + 8.5$. If there are 110 points possible, your grade would be based $(95 + 8.5)/110$. The first exam covers chapters 2-4, the second covers chapters 5-7, the third exam in son chapters 8-10 and the final covers chapters 11-13. The midterms will be given weeks 4, 8 and 12 unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

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

GETTING OUTSIDE TUTORING:

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

Email: tutoring@usc.edu

You can also contact Center for Academic Support — Student Union 301 — Los Angeles, CA 90089-0896 (213) 740-0776 (Phone)

tutor appointment site: <https://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerservices/secure/login.asp>

SOFTWARE: This course uses R, which can be used to apply standard methods as well as many modern methods not available in other software packages. Modern methods 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 1: 1-8, 11, 12, 14.

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, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 23-26.

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

Incomplete

If a student whose work is of a passing grade misses a final examination because of documented illness or emergency that occurred after the 12th week of the semester (or 12th week equivalent for any courses scheduled for less than 15 weeks), he/she may be given the mark of IN (Incomplete).

Acceptable Excuses for Missing an Exam

If you miss an exam without an approved, documented excuse, you will receive a zero and may not make it up. Extensions for taking an exam are granted under the following circumstances: (1) university-sponsored event that you are required to attend on an exam date; (2) unanticipated and

unavoidable emergency on the exam date, such as a documented incident on the way to campus; (3) death or life threatening emergency of a close relative or friend within a reasonable timeframe of the scheduled date (paper evidence of the emergency is required, and additional documentation by a university official may also be required); (4) Medical excuses: If you go to the student health center, sign the release form. Dated notes on letterhead from private physicians or therapists are also acceptable, but subject to approval. Only one midterm exam can be rescheduled.

University policy prohibits retaking a final exam. No student is allowed to do extra work in a course after the semester has ended for purposes of improving his/her grade.

If you take a midterm exam and do not do well, you cannot retake it. If you can provide documentation indicating that there is some medical reason explaining your poor performance on an exam, that score will be ignored and your final grade will be based on the remaining test scores and the lab. The final exam cannot be dropped.

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/>.