



Course Title	: Social Statistics
Course Code	: SSC 001
Number of Credits / Semester	: 3
Number of Teaching Hours / Week	: 3
Pre-requisite	: None

Lecturer:

Lis Ku (Office: SO312; Email: lisku@ln.edu.hk; Tel: 2616-7183)

Mode of Tuition

2-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial per week

Course Description

This course aims to equip students with the basic ability of statistical reasoning that is particularly important in social and behavioural sciences. Fundamentals of statistics such as levels and forms of data, frequency distribution, data dispersion are first introduced. These are followed by inferential statistics and tests of significance. Special emphases are placed on interpreting statistical analyses, and how we use statistical models to answer scientific questions.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- learn about relationships between statistics and research hypotheses
- conduct simple statistical tests
- report research concisely
- interpret and critically evaluate results of inferential statistics

Indicative Contents

Introduction: Scientific reasoning in social sciences.

Data and Measurement: Level of Measurement and Forms of data.

Descriptive Statistics: Data central tendency, and data Dispersion.

Inferential Statistics: Probability, sampling, probability distributions, tests of significance.

Textbook (Required)

Sirkin, R. M. (2005). *Statistics for the Social Sciences*. Third Edition. Sage.

Supplementary Readings

Schacht, S. P. & Aspelmeier, J. E. (2005). *Social and Behavioral Statistics: A*



User-Friendly Approach. Second Edition. Westview.

Healey, J. F. (2005). *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research*. 7th edition, Belmont, Cal.: Wadsworth.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The course combines lectures, take-home assignments and presentations in tutorials. After learning a new statistics concept, students are encouraged to use an available statistical software package to help with their analyses. The students are expected to spend at least 2 to 3 hours per week for private/group study outside of the class.

Assessment Methods

Continuous Assessment (60%)

Exercises and presentation 20%

Quizzes 20%

Mid Term 20%

Final Examination (40%)



APPENDIX

Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Schedule	Readings
Week 2	September 8	Lecture	Chapter 1, 2
Week 3	September 15	--	
Week 4	September 22	Lecture	Chapter 4
Week 5	September 29	Quiz 1	
Week 6	October 6	Lecture	Chapter 5
Week 7	October 13	Lecture	Chapter 6
Week 8	October 20	Mid Term	
Week 9	October 27	Lecture	Chapter 8
Week 10	November 3	Lecture	Chapter 7, 8
Week 11	November 10	Quiz 2	
Week 12	November 17	Lecture	Chapter 9
Week 13	November 24	Lecture	Chapter 10
Week 14	December 1	Lecture	--

Guidelines for Tutorial

1. All students are required to attend tutorials. Absence in tutorial without justifiable reasons will adversely affect one's final score (one mark per absence);
2. Students should attend tutorials punctually. No attendance will be counted 10 minutes after the tutorial starts.