

**Criminology 320**  
**Quantitative Research Methods in Criminology**  
**School of Criminology**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Spring 2019 (Term 1191)**

**Instructor: Prof. M.A. Andresen**

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**Calendar Description:**

A detailed examination of the quantitative research methods and techniques most frequently used in criminological research. Advantages and shortcomings of each method and the appropriateness of each technique for criminological research. Problems of pure and applied research. Specific issues of interdisciplinary research. Critical evaluation of the quantitative methods used in certain major criminological studies.

**Prerequisite:**

CRIM 101; one of CRIM 120 or 220. CRIM 320 may be taken concurrently with CRIM 321. Quantitative.

**Course objectives:**

Criminology 320 builds on skills developed through Criminology 220 and introductory statistics courses. Students will become familiar with the various quantitative approaches that are used in current criminological research, with an emphasis on analysis and interpretation. Students will hand-in assignments based on a selected dataset. While this is not a course in social statistics, per se, students will be expected to apply a variety of statistical techniques, including: chi squares, t-tests, ANOVA, correlations and regression. Lab periods will be devoted primarily to learning to code, analyze, interpret and represent data using SPSS.

**Course structure:**

There is one lecture (2 hours) per week and one 1-hour lab.

**Course evaluation:**

Assignments	30 %
Midterm Exam (12 February 2019)	30 %
Final Exam (17 April 2019, 830am – 1130am)	40 %

**Textbook:**

Haan, Michael, & Jenny Godley. (2017). *An Introduction to Statistics for Canadian Social Scientists, Third Edition*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press. ISBN-13: 9780199020591.

Yockey, Ronald D. (2018). *SPSS Demystified: A Simple Guide and Reference*. Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-1138286283.

There may also be some supplementary readings, mostly available through Canvas. You are responsible to download, photocopy, or borrow these readings.

**Lecture topics, schedule, and readings:**

<b>Lecture Topics (Subject to change, based on time necessary to cover material)</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook Chapters (Haan &amp; Godley)</b>
1	January 8	Introduction, math, and univariate statistics	1, 2, 3
2	January 15	Probability and the normal distribution	4, 5
3	January 22	Central tendency and dispersion	6, 7
4	January 29	Sampling & Samples to populations	8, 9
5	February 5	Hypothesis testing: sample-population	10
6	February 12	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
	February 19	<b>No Class, Reading Break</b>	
7	February 26	t-tests with two samples	11
8	March 5	Bivariate statistics for nominal data	12
9	March 12	Bivariate statistics for ordinal data	13
10	March 19	Bivariate statistics for interval/ratio data	14
11	March 26	ANOVA	15
12	April 2	Regression	16

**Please note: I retain the right to modify the nature of the course structure and schedule based on instructional needs.**

<b>Tutorial Topics (All labs are due the following week)</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook Chapters (Yockey)</b>
1	January 9	<b>No Tutorials</b>	
2	January 16	1. Introduction to SPSS	1
3	January 23	2. Descriptive Statistics	2
4	January 30	3. Graphical Procedures	3
5	February 6	4. Sampling (no tutorials, see instructor in office, if necessary, after 12pm)	
	February 13	<b>No Tutorials, Midterm Exam</b>	
6	February 20	<b>No Tutorials, Reading Break</b>	
7	February 27	5. One-Sample t-test	5
8	March 6	6. Independent-Samples t-test	6
9	March 13	7. Dependent-Samples t-test	7
10	March 20	8. ANOVA	8
11	March 27	9. Correlations and Simple Linear Regression	12 and 13
12	April 3	Review questions (questions brought by students)	

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## **ACADEMIC (DIS)HONESTY**

It is your responsibility to know the SFU policies and follow the policies. I will follow through with any acts of academic dishonesty in my classes.

## **ATTENTION STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY**

Please contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities, (MBC 1250 or Phone 778-782-3112) if you need or require assistance, not your individual instructors.

*N.B.: Students are reminded that attendance in the first week of classes is important. However, there are no tutorials in the first week.*

*Assignments not submitted to the Professor/T.A. during class/office hours must be placed in the security box at the School of Criminology General Office (Saywell Hall). The box is emptied Monday to Friday at 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. only and the contents are date stamped accordingly. No other department's date stamp will apply (e.g. Library/Campus Security) and the School of Criminology is not responsible for assignments submitted any other way (e.g. slid under office doors).*

*E-mail policy: The School of Criminology STRONGLY DISCOURAGES the use of e-mail in lieu of office hour visits. Criminology advises its instructional staff that they are NOT required to respond to student e-mails and that students wishing to confer with them should do so in person during scheduled meeting times.*

*The University does NOT accept assignments by fax.*

*The University has formal policies regarding intellectual dishonesty and grade appeals which may be obtained from the General Office of the School of Criminology.*

**UNIVERSITY POLICY FORBIDS FINAL EXAMINATIONS WHILE CLASSES ARE STILL IN SESSION.**