

Department of Social Sciences
Fall 2017
CJ Statistics – CRIJ 4315
Tuesdays/Thursdays 11:00-12:15p
FH 307

Professor: Liana R. Taylor, Ph.D.

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Students can also send course messages to me through Blackboard.

Office Phone Number: 254-519-5436

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-4:30p

“Behind every uncomfortable syllabus clause lies an even more uncomfortable teaching experience.” – @AcademicSay (April 22, 2016)

ACADEMIC ACCOMODATIONS

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion webpage
<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html>.

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has adopted a policy on the Disruption of University Activities (Policy # 4.08), which can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/index.php>

*** **Disclaimer: Syllabus may be revised later if needed** ***

COURSE GOALS AND METHODS

This class is an introduction to the magical world of statistical concepts and techniques that can assist one in evaluating research findings and conducting research. Techniques include measures of central tendency, variability, and significance, and hypothesis testing using t-tests and ANOVA. Students will learn how to manipulate, analyze, and interpret data using SPSS.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Understand the prevalence of and need for statistics
- 2) Understand how statistical analysis can be used to objectively investigate practical issues in criminal justice
- 3) Learn how to use statistical software to analyze data
- 4) Understand the fundamentals of data entry and processing
- 5) Know how to calculate and interpret descriptive statistics
- 6) Understand the logic behind samples, probability, and hypothesis testing
- 7) Understand how to conduct hypothesis testing using statistical analyses

REQUIRED TEXT

Gau, J. M. (2016). *Statistics for criminology and criminal justice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781483378459

Additional readings may be provided on Blackboard (BB).

COURSE POLICIES

Distractions

Use of electronics is prohibited in the classroom* (cell phones, laptops, tablets, palm pilots, Gameboys, TI-86 calculators, discmans, etc.). All cell phones must be turned off or silenced when entering the class. Do not put your cell phone on vibrate, as this can also be distracting. Headphones must be removed prior to entry into the classroom. **I reserve the right to impose a point(s) deduction from the lab, in-class activity, and/or test/quiz that day if I see any use of electronics during class.**

If you can't make it through class without using your phone then you might want to check out this article: <http://www.webmd.com/balance/guide/addicted-your-smartphone-what-to-do>

* Students who provide documentation from The Office of Access & Inclusion may use a recorder.

Respect

Statistics can be a difficult subject to learn and everyone learns at a different pace. Students are encouraged to ask questions in class, and are expected to listen to the professor and to one another respectfully. **I reserve the right to impose a point(s) deduction from the lab, in-class activity, and/or test/quiz that day if I see what I discern to be a display(s) of disrespect during class.**

Academic Honesty

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action. For more information, please see

<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/academicintegrity.php>

Violations in academic honesty will result in score of zero on the assignment for which it is suspected. Any suspected violations of academic honesty will be reported to TAMUCT's Office of Student Conduct (<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/student-affairs/bat.php>).

ACCESSING CANVAS

This is a lecture/lab course with online components, and will use the TAMUCT Instructure Canvas learning management system.

Logon to TAMUCT Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>]

Username: Your MyCT username

(xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)

Password: Your MyCT password

For technology issues, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

Web Chat: <http://hdc.tamu.edu>

When calling for support please let your support technician know you are a TAMUCT student.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

To help you learn Canvas, I recommend you complete the Canvas Orientation Course. All students should have been automatically enrolled. If you are not or cannot access it, please contact IT.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Course announcements will be posted to the course Announcements page on Canvas.

Correspondence to individual students will be sent to your TAMUCT email account. Make you sure you have access to and regularly check it, as it is not my responsibility to tell you I sent an email to you, nor is it my responsibility to locate your non-TAMUCT email address.

STUDENT-PROFESSOR INTERACTION

Students may speak with the Professor after class ends (provided time availability), via email, during office hours, or by appointment. Emails will be answered within 72 hours. Appointments (date/time) must be confirmed by the student and the professor via email.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICIES

Attendance will not be taken in this course. However, it is in your best interest to attend every class in order to earn points on the exams, quizzes, labs, and class assignments. **All material covered in class and/or the readings are fair game for the exams/quizzes.** Therefore, if you do not attend regularly your grade is likely to suffer. Participation is encouraged as it will also aid in understanding in the material, which can ultimately improve your grade. If you have a question, I strongly suggest that you speak up in class or see me during my office hours (or make an appointment).

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS/QUIZZES

Reading Assignments

The reading assignments are taken from the required textbook. It is important to have the textbook when class begins so you can keep up with the assigned readings. I recommend you purchase the book as soon as possible so you are adequately prepared for class. Reading assignments are to be completed by the date listed on the Class Schedule. I also suggest you review the chapters after class, as well.

Labs

Lab assignments afford students with the opportunity to become familiarized with statistical software and apply the concepts and methods of analyses to criminal justice datasets. Labs entail in-class work using SPSS, which is the

statistical software used for analysis. Students will not be required to purchase SPSS to complete the assignments.

There will be no make-up labs and labs cannot be taken early. However, if a student has to miss a lab due to work or military obligations, he or she may be allowed to complete a make-up assignment worth 20 points within one week of the lab date. If you do not complete the assignment within one week you will receive a zero. In order to be allowed to complete the make-up assignment, the student must provide me with official documentation in advance showing the date(s) of the scheduling conflict.

Labs will be graded on the following:

Lab Elements	Approximate percentage of lab grade*
Syntax – Correct code	15%
Output – Correct analysis	15%
Word Document – Correct interpretation and write-up of results	70%

* Specific number of points will vary by the assignment

Advanced notice is not required for medical emergencies; however, you must provide written documentation (on official paper with the date(s)) within one week from the lab date. You will also have one week from the lab date to complete the make-up assignment. If you do not complete the make-up assignment within one week you will receive a zero.

Students who arrive in class more than 5 minutes late will receive a 5-point deduction in their lab grade.

In-Class Activities

In-class activities are designed to help you apply the concepts you learn in class. You may work in groups to complete the assignment. You will need to turn in the assignment during class to receive credit. **Late in-class activities will not be accepted.**

If you need to miss a class, you can make-up the in-class activity within one week from the missed class session.¹ If you do not make up the in-class activity within one week, you will receive a zero. **In order to make-up an in-class activity, you must provide me with advanced written notice that you will miss the class.** I will not accept notification provided to me via another student.

Those who receive approval to make-up the assignment must come during my office hours or make an appointment to make up the assignment. You may not take a make-up assignment home or complete it outside of the office. Make-up assignments cannot be completed as group assignments. Make-up assignments

¹ Clarification on one week: Make-up assignments/exams/quizzes must be completed before the next week's class session, i.e. if you miss class on Tuesday, Oct. 3, you have until Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 10:59a to complete it. Similarly, if you miss class on Thursday, Oct. 5, you have until Thursday, October 12 at 10:59a to complete it.

will not be sent via email. Students are not allowed to complete an in-class activity early.

Advanced notice is not required for medical emergencies; however, you must provide written documentation (on official paper with the date(s)) within one week from the class date. You will also have one week from the class date to complete the in-class activity. If you do not complete the assignment within one week you will receive a zero.

I reserve the right to prohibit students who arrive more than 5 minutes late to class from completing the in-class activity that day.

Exams/Quizzes

There will be two exams and two quizzes covering reading assignments, lab work, class activities, and classroom discussions.

If you have to miss an exam or quiz due to an employment or military obligation, you must provide me with official documentation showing the date(s) of the scheduling conflict by the end of the previous class session.² When you provide the documentation, make sure you clearly state that you want to make up the exam/quiz. I will not accept written notification provided to me via another student. You will have one week from the exam/quiz session to make up the exam/quiz.¹ If you do not make up the exam/quiz within one week from the exam/quiz session, you will receive a zero. Exams/Quizzes must be taken early if the make-up will occur more than a week after the exam/quiz date.

Students who arrive more than 5 minutes late to the exam/quiz will receive a 5-point deduction in their grade.

Note: Early/make-up exams/quizzes will be in the format of true/false, fill in the blank and short answer. Early/make-up exams must be arranged with the Testing Center (<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/testing-center/>). If an appointment cannot be made with the Testing Center, you must make an appointment to take it during my office hours.

Advanced notice is not required for medical emergencies; however, you must provide written documentation (on official paper with the date(s)) within one week from the exam date. You will also have one week from the exam date to complete the make-up exam. Arrangements to make up the exam must be made through the TAMUCT Testing Center (<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/testing-center/>). If an appointment cannot be made with the Testing Center, you must make an appointment to take it during my office hours.

If you cannot attend class on December 14 due to a work or military obligation, you must provide advanced, written, official documentation with the date(s) of conflict. You will have until August 15 at 12:15p to complete the final exam.

² Clarification on the previous class session: if the exam/quizzes is on Tuesday, September 26, you must provide official documentation to me by the end of class on Thursday, September 21. Likewise, if the exam/quiz is on Thursday, Oct. 17, you must provide official documentation to me by the end of class on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

GRADING

Final grades will not be curved. Grades will be posted on Canvas within approximately one week. Students will be notified if it will take longer to post the grades.

Your final grade will be weighted. Guidance on how to calculate your weighted grade may be found on Canvas/Modules/Additional Resources/General Resources.

	Number of points	Weight of Category
In-Class Assignments	~15 points (~180 total)	15%
Labs	20 points/each (120 total points)	15%
Exam 1	100 points	20%
Quizzes	50 points/each (100 total points)	25%
Exam 3	100 points	25%
	Total: 585 points	

EXTRA CREDIT

Students are allowed a maximum of five extra credit submissions during the semester. Each submission is worth five bonus points. Only one submission is allowed per week via Canvas.

Submit an example of the use of statistics in science fiction or comics. The following cannot be used:

- An example previously submitted by the student
- Examples used in class
- Examples submitted by other students

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Due
Week 1	08/29	Introduction to Statistics	Chs. 1-2
	08/31	Organizing data	Ch. 3
Week 2	09/05	Lab 1	
	09/07	Measures of Central Tendency	Ch. 4
Week 3	09/12	Lab 2	
	09/14	Measures of Variability	Ch. 5
Week 4	09/19	Lab 3	
	09/21	<i>Review for Exam 1 (Intro to Stats – Variability)</i>	
Week 5	09/26	Exam 1	
	09/28	The Normal Curve	Ch. 6
Week 6	10/03	The Normal Curve	
	10/05	Z-Scores	
Week 7	10/10	Z-Scores	
	10/12	<i>Quiz 1 Review (Normal Curve – Z scores)</i>	
Week 8	10/17	Quiz 1	
	10/19	Samples & Populations	Ch. 7
Week 9	10/24	Samples & Populations	
	10/26	Estimation Procedures	Ch. 8
Week 10	10/31	Hypothesis Testing	Ch. 9
	11/02	Hypothesis Testing	
Week 11	11/07	<i>Quiz 2 Review (Samples/Populations – Hypothesis Testing)</i>	

	11/09	Quiz 2	
Week 12	11/14	T-Tests	Ch. 11
	11/16	<i>T-Test Study Day</i>	<i>Assignment on Canvas</i>
Week 13	11/21	Lab 4	
	11/23	Turkey Day	
Week 14	11/28	Analysis of Variance	Ch. 12
	11/30	Analysis of Variance	
Week 15	12/05	Lab 5	
	12/07	<i>Review for Exam 3 (T-Tests – ANOVA)</i>	
Week 16	12/12	Lab 6 - Bonus	
	12/14	<i>Exam 3</i>	

911 CELLULAR

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas

911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911 Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at 911Cellular <https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management> to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

DROP POLICY

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a Drop Request Form

https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf.

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

TUTORING

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Larry Davis at lmdavis@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

THE UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library on Mondays from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a

trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via WOnline <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website <https://tamuct.libguides.com/>.

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES

August 28, Add/Drop/Late Registration begins

August 30, Add/Drop/Late Registration ends, 16-week and 1st 8-week classes

September 1, Priority Deadline to Submit Graduation Application

September 4, Labor Day, CAMPUS CLOSED
September 5, Last day to drop 1st 8-week classes with no record
September 13, Last day to drop 16-week classes with no record
September 22, Last day to drop a 1st 8-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W
October 6, Deadline to submit graduation
October 20, Last day to withdraw from the University (1st 8-week classes WF)
October 23, Add/Drop/Late Registration begins, 2nd 8-week classes
October 26, Add/Drop/Late Registration ends, 2nd 8-week classes
October 30, Last day to drop 2nd 8-week classes with no record
November 10, Veteran's Day
November 10, Last day to drop with a Q or withdraw with a W (16-week classes)
November 17, Last day to drop a 2nd 8-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W
November 23-24, Thanksgiving, CAMPUS CLOSED
December 15, Last day to withdraw from the University (16-week and 2nd 8-week classes)
December 15, Last day to file for Degree Conferral (Registrar's Office)
December 15, Commencement (End of Fall Term)
December 25-January 1, WINTER BREAK

A NOTE ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT A&M-CENTRAL TEXAS

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the Title IX webpage

<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php>.