

Department of Social Sciences
Fall 2021
Linear Regression
HLS 5300-110, 80893
Online

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“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 Office 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 Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

FALL 2021 RETURN TO CAMPUS PLAN

For the most recent campus information regarding COVID-19 see the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

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

COURSE GOALS AND METHODS

This course assumes student’s competency in basic undergraduate statistics, measures of significance, and use of a statpak, which are available in a one-semester course. The course introduces students to statistical concepts and techniques that can assist them in evaluating research and in engaging in research

on the graduate level. The techniques allow one to discover relationships between variables of interest and to infer population parameters based on sample statistics. Both simple and multiple linear regression techniques will provide the main content for the course. Students will also manipulate, analyze, and interpret data using SPSS.

At the end of the course:

- 1) Students will be able to select an appropriate statistic for a given set of data.
- 2) Students will acquire the ability to use, analyze, and interpret statistical tests.
- 3) Students will learn the basic, technical vocabulary of intermediate social statistics.
- 4) Students will be able to interpret the use of intermediate statistics in social research.
- 5) Students will demonstrate calculator proficiency for all statistical formulas.
- 6) Students will employ SPSS for data manipulation, analysis, and interpretation.
- 7) Students will gain some appreciation for the role of statistics in the research process.
- 8) Students will be able to submit prose products with statistical tables for exams.

REQUIRED TEXT

Field, A. (2018). *Discovering statistics using IBM SPSS statistics* (5th ed). Sage: Thousand Oaks, CA.

Berry, W. D. (1993). *Understanding regression assumptions*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Jaccard, J., & Turrisi, R. (2003). *Interaction effects in multiple regression* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Lewis-Beck, C., & Lewis-Beck, M. (2016). *Applied regression: An introduction*. Los Angeles: Sage.

Schroeder, L. D., Sjoquist, D. L., & Stephan, P. E. (2017). *Understanding regression analysis: An introductory guide*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

All readings are available via Canvas or the Sage Research Methods database.

COURSE POLICIES

Respect

This course will be fully online and you are encouraged to participate. All students learn in a variety of ways and at varying paces. I expect everyone to treat one another with respect and help cultivate an environment in which everyone feels free to ask and answer questions respectfully.

Netiquette

All students must abide by the following core rules of netiquette (excerpted from Shea, 1994¹) for the duration of the course on discussion boards and email.

Rule 1: Remember the human - Do unto others as you'd have others do unto you. Imagine how you'd feel if you were in the other person's shoes. Stand up for yourself, but try not to hurt people's feelings.

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online - Standards of behavior may be different in some areas of cyberspace, but they are not lower than in real life.

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace - When you enter a domain of cyberspace that's new to you, take a look around. Spend a while listening to the chat or reading the archives. Get a sense of how the people who are already there act. Then go ahead and participate.

Rule 4: Respect other people's time and bandwidth - ...don't expect instant responses to all your questions, and don't assume that all readers will agree with -- or care about -- your passionate arguments.

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online - As in the world at large, most people who communicate online just want to be liked. Networks -- particularly discussion groups -- let you reach out to people you'd otherwise never meet. And none of them can see you. You won't be judged by the color of your skin, eyes, or hair, your weight, your age, or your clothing.

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge - Don't be afraid to share what you know.

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control - ...Netiquette does forbid the perpetuation of flame wars -- series of angry letters, most of them from two

¹ Shea, V. (1994). Core Rules of Netiquette. In *Netiquette*, (pp. 32-46). Vancouver: Albion Books.

or three people directed toward each other, that can dominate the tone and destroy the camaraderie of a discussion group. It's unfair to the other members of the group.

Rule 8: Respect other people's privacy

Rule 9: Don't abuse your power - Some people in cyberspace have more power than others...Knowing more than others, or having more power than they do, does not give you the right to take advantage of them.

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people's mistakes - ... when someone makes a mistake -- whether it's a spelling error or a spelling flame, a stupid question or an unnecessarily long answer -- be kind about it. If it's a minor error, you may not need to say anything. Even if you feel strongly about it, think twice before reacting. Having good manners yourself doesn't give you license to correct everyone else. If you do decide to inform someone of a mistake, point it out politely, and preferably by private email rather than in public. Give people the benefit of the doubt; assume they just don't know any better. And never be arrogant or self-righteous about it. Just as it's a law of nature that spelling flames always contain spelling errors, notes pointing out Netiquette violations are often examples of poor Netiquette.

Academic Integrity

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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process,
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report,
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Violations in academic integrity will result in score of zero on the assignment for which it is suspected. Any suspected violations of

academic integrity will also be reported to TAMUCT's Office of Student Conduct: <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT AND SUPPORT

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address.

Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

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

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, 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): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student..

COURSE COMMUNICATION

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

I will send correspondence to your Canvas Inbox. Make sure you have access to and regularly check it. I recommend you adjust your Canvas Settings, so you receive a notification when I post an announcement, you receive a course message, etc.

Do not send Canvas messages/emails about things stated in the syllabus/guidelines or where things are located on Canvas *unless* you are requesting clarification or additional information.

STUDENT-PROFESSOR INTERACTION

Students may speak with me via Canvas Inbox or by appointment. I will answer (most) messages within 24 hours, Monday through Friday. Students who would like to speak to me via WebEx must make an appointment. For appointments, the student and I must confirm the date and time via Canvas Inbox.

PARTICIPATION POLICIES

Participation will not count towards your grade. However, it is in your best interest to regularly check Canvas and complete all the assignments. If you do not, your grade is likely to suffer. Participation will aid in understanding the material, which can ultimately improve your grade. If you have a question, I strongly suggest you send me a course message via Canvas or make an appointment.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS

Reading Assignments

The reading assignments are will either be available through the Sage Research Methods database on the University Library Website or posted to Canvas. I recommend students read the assigned readings before class. I also suggest you review the readings and your notes after class.

Homework

The homework assignments will be online through Canvas. Homework assignments are designed to help students apply the concepts they learn in the reading and in class. You may work in groups to complete these assignments, but each student must submit their own assignment to receive credit. The homework will have a flexible due date. The assignments will be available during class and students will have time in class to complete them. There is no

requirement to complete the assignment in class. You may start the assignment in class and finish it later. Students have until the next class session to complete the assignment. However, if you need more time, I will allow you to submit it later without a late penalty. It is in your best interest to submit it by the next class session, as this will help you stay current with the class content and help you prepare for the exams. The latest I will accept the homework is December 10 at 11:59p.

Exams

There will be three exams covering the course content. **The exams will be available for one week each.**

If you have to miss an exam 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 week (Sunday at 11:59p). When you provide the documentation, make sure you clearly state that you want to make up the exam. I will not accept notification provided to me via another student. You will have one week from the exam period to make it up. If you do not make up the exam within one week from the exam period, you will receive a zero. Exams must be taken early if the make-up will occur more than a week after the exam date.

Advanced notice is not required for medical emergencies (e.g. Covid-19); however, you must contact me within one week from the exam period. You will also have one week from your approval date to complete the make-up exam.

Note: Exams are not group activities and may not be taken together. Students suspected of working together on the exams will receive a zero on the exam and be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for violating academic integrity.

GRADING

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.

	Number of points	Weight of Category
Homework	~550 points	25%
Exam 1	200 points	25%
Exam 2	200 points	25%
Exam 3	200 points	25%
	Total: ~1150 points	

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	Dates	Topic	Reading Due
Week 1	08/24	Introduction to the Course Review of Basic Statistics	
Week 2	08/31	Review of Basic Statics Simple (Bivariate) Regression	Schoeder et al. – Ch. 1
Week 3	09/07	Simple (Bivariate) Regression	Lewis-Beck – Ch. 1 Kahane – Ch. 3
Week 4	09/14	Simple (Bivariate) Regression	Lewis-Beck – Ch. 2
Week 5	09/21	Simple (Bivariate) Regression	
Week 6	09/28	Review Exam 1 due 10/28 at 11:59p	
Week 7	10/05	Multiple Regression	Lewis-Beck – Ch. 3 (pp. 1-14)
Week 8	10/12	Multiple Regression	Schoeder et al. – Ch. 2
Week 9	10/19	Multiple Regression	
Week 10	10/26	Review Exam 2 due 10/26 at 11:59p	
Week 11	11/02	Interaction Effects	Jaccard & Turrisi – Chs. 1-2 Field – 11.3.1-11.3.5

Week 12	11/09	Interaction Effects	
Week 13	11/16	Interaction Effects	
Week 14	11/23	Interaction Effects	
Week 15	11/30	Interaction Effects Review	
Week 16	12/06-12/10	Exam 2 due 12/10 at 11:59p	

WARRIOR SHIELD

EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM FOR TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

Warrior Shield 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 Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [<https://www.tamuct.edu/police/911cellular.html>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, 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 the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed 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, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other

question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer!

Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

THE UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. For the Fall 2021 semester, the hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

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 UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

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 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 24 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams 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

[<http://tamuct.libguides.com/index>].

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PREGNANT AND/OR PARENTING STUDENTS

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related 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. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. 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>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable

accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

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 Wellness and 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/compliance/titleix.html>].

BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the Behavioral Intervention Team website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>