

Department of Social Sciences
Fall 2023
Social Science Statistics
CRIJ 4315-120, 80621
Online

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

ADA Access and Accommodations:

Texas A&M University-Central Texas ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities by providing appropriate accommodations and support services. If you believe you have a physical, learning or socio-emotional disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please visit Access and Inclusion [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html>] for more details or contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential.

FOR UPDATES ON COVID INFORMATION:

Please monitor the University [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

***** 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. The techniques will include measures of central tendency, variability, and significance, and hypothesis testing using t-tests and ANOVA. Students will learn how to 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) Understand the fundamentals of data entry and processing
- 4) Know how to calculate and interpret descriptive statistics
- 5) Understand the logic behind samples, probability, and hypothesis testing
- 6) Understand how to conduct hypothesis testing
- 7) Learn how to read and interpret statistical results

REQUIRED TEXT

Gau, J. M. (2018). *Statistics for criminology and criminal justice* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. ISBN: 9781506391786

Additional readings may be provided on Canvas.

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.

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 Student Conduct Office. 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 referral, [<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

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, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browsers. Canvas will run on Windows, Mac, Linus, iOS, android, or any other device with a modern web browser. **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/>] by clicking on the "TAMUCT Online Canvas" tile. You will then log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address.

Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help tab, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can search the support articles or use the Email, Call, or Chat buttons at the bottom of the support pop-up to contact the Canvas Help Desk.

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 requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

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 meet with me may do so by appointment via WebEx. 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

Grading Policies

Excluding the exams, the assignments in this course have flexible deadlines (see the course schedule). As such, there are no late penalties. You are not required to meet those deadlines, though it is in your best interest to do so.

However, all homework must be submitted via the appropriate Canvas link by the end of the semester: December 15 at 11:59p. The exams have a firm deadline and will not be accepted after their respective deadline.

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 should be completed by the date listed on the Class Schedule. I also suggest you review the chapters 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. Each homework assignment has two attempts. The practice assignments only have one attempt. I will post the homework each Monday at 12:00a, and I recommend you submit them by Sunday at 11:59p. 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 Sunday due date, as this will allow more time for me to grade it and provide you with feedback you can use to study. **The latest I will accept the homework is December 15 at 11:59p.** I will not start posting grades for submissions until after their due date.

Exams

There will be two exams covering the course content. The Learning Objectives posted and homework assignments each week will aid students in studying for the exams. **The first exam will be available from the beginning of the semester through October 22 at 11:59p. The second exam will be available from October 23 at 12a through December 15 at 11:59p.** Exams have a firm deadline and will not be accepted after the deadline. The format will be multiple-choice, fill in the blank, and short answer. You will have 2.5 hours to complete each exam.

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 takes longer to post the grades.

Your final grade will be weighted.

	Number of points	Weight of Category
Homework	~435 points	40%
Exam 1	100 points	25%
Exam 2	100 points	35%
	Total: ~635 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	08/28-09/03	Introduction to Statistics	Chs. 1-2
Week 2	09/04-09/10	Organizing data	Ch. 3
Week 3	09/11-09/17	Measures of Central Tendency	Ch. 4
Week 4	09/18-09/24	Measures of Variability	Ch. 5
Week 5	09/25-10/01	The Normal Curve & Z scores	Ch. 6
Week 6	10/02-10/08	Samples & Populations	Ch. 7
Week 7	10/09-10/15	Review Week	
Week 8	10/16-10/22	Exam 1 (Intro – Samples & Populations) due by 10/22 at 11:59p This is a firm deadline.	
Week 9	10/23-10/29	Estimation Procedures	Ch. 8
Week 10	10/30-11/05	Hypothesis Testing	Ch. 9

Week 11	11/06-11/12	T-Tests	Ch. 11
Week 12	11/13-11/19	T-Tests	
Week 13	11/20-11/26	ANOVA	Ch. 12
Week 14	11/27-12/03	ANOVA	
Week 15	12/04-12/10	Review Week	
Week 16	12/11-12/15	Exam 2 (Estimation Procedures – ANOVA) due by 12/15 at 11:59p (This is a firm deadline)	

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

SAFEZONE

SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the SafeZone website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - o iPhone/iPad: [<https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756>]
 - o Android Phone / Tablet
[<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp>]
2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

DROP POLICY

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSSO&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Records and Admissions 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 Records and Admissions 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. **WARRIOR CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

The Warrior Center for Student Success is a comprehensive academic support department at A&M-Central Texas, dedicated to fostering an environment of excellence and empowerment among its student body. The center offers a wide range of programs and services to ensure every student reaches their full potential, and is a haven for students seeking guidance, resources, and a strong support network to excel in their educational journey.

Success Coaching and Peer Mentoring

Our experienced Success Coaches work one-on-one with students to develop personalized action plans, set academic goals, and build effective study strategies, time management skills, and resilience. Our Peer Mentors provide a valuable support system, offering guidance, encouragement, and a relatable perspective to help students navigate their academic and personal challenges. For more details call 254-501-5836 or 254-501-5928 or visit Academic Support [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html>]. Click the link to schedule a session (virtual or in-person) with a success coach bit.ly/3q7uB50 or visit WH, 111.

Testing Services

We offer a secure and comfortable environment for students and members of the community to take courses and distance learning exams, as well as placement tests and professional certification exams. Our Testing Service also offers resources and support referrals for testing related challenges (test anxiety, learning disabilities, etc.) and supports all approved ADA accommodations. Call (254) 519-5830 or visit the Testing Center [<https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/>].

Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction Services

Our team of qualified Tutors and Supplemental Instructors assist students in various non-writing subjects, promoting academic comprehension and enhancing learning outcomes. Click the link to schedule a tutoring session with a TAMUCT tutor (virtual or in-person) or view tutor availability bit.ly/43Q6wNz. You may also chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for a variety of subjects through our partnership with Tutor.com, an online tutoring platform that is free to all TAMUCT students. To learn more please visit Tutoring Services [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring>] or

call (254) 501-5836 or visit the Tutoring Hub in Warrior Hall, 111.

THE UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER

Located in Warrior Hall 416 and online, 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. The face-to-face hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday in Warrior Hall 416. Online tutoring is available Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 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 [<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 & ARCHIVES

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 1,203,947 eBooks and 134,750 journals, in addition to the 96,879 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. Schedule an appointment here

[<https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments>]. 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 workspaces, 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/index>]

PREGNANT AND/OR PARENTING STUDENTS RIGHTS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

A&M-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs, (254) 501-5909, can assist students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting by provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodations. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible through the Pregnancy & Parenting webpage [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. 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 specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions [<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.html>].

Students experiencing any form of discrimination due to any of these conditions are encouraged to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator, 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 254.501.5909, Warrior Hall 105.out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

TITLE IX RIGHTS AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

A&M-Central Texas is committed to creating a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you or another student has experienced any form of gender discrimination or sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and/or sex-based stalking, help and support are available. Our university strongly encourages all members of our campus community to report incidents and seek support for gender discrimination and sexual misconduct through the Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the Title IX webpage [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Please be aware that that under Title IX, Texas Senate Bill 212, and System Regulation 08.01.01, [<https://policies.tamus.edu/08-01-01.pdf>] all university employees are mandated reporters and are required to disclose information about suspected or alleged violations as listed above and defined in System Regulation 08.01.01. If the Title IX Office receives information about an incident, they will reach out to offer information about resources, rights, and procedural options as a member of the campus community. Although I have an obligation to report, you will, in most cases, control how your case will be handled. When working with the Title IX Office you will have access to resources and accommodations but also have the opportunity to express if you wish to move forward with an investigation. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the options available to you as a student. Community members are not required to respond to this outreach.

If you or another student wishes to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the Student Wellness & Counseling Center, [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html>], 254.501.5955, or swacc@tamuct.edu, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or ssa@tamuct.edu, located in founder Hall Room 317D.

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/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

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 254-501-5805.

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES

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