

PhD Sociology

The SAASC convened on Friday, October 13, 2017 to consider two proposals from the Department of Sociology:

- 1) a proposal to modify the MA program requirements to make them identical to the first two years of the doctoral program, to suspend admissions into the MA-only program, and to provide that students who enter the doctoral program without having earned an MA will earn an MA at the end of their second year upon successful completion of requirements listed in the proposal; and
- 2) a proposal to streamline the MA/PhD process by making the MA program and the first two years of the PhD program identical, with the aim of preparing doctoral students to complete the post-qualifying portion of the program (proposal, research, writing, defense) more quickly by improving the pre-qualifying exam course preparation and assessment process.

Rationale:

During the Sociology Department's last 5 year review, the external review committee recommended elimination of the MA program, noting that the program was draining resources from the department and they further recommended that financial resources and faculty time should focus on the improvement of the PhD program. Subsequently, the faculty determined that they would streamline their curriculum and financial support mechanism so as support a fewer number of higher quality students for a longer period of time. In order to accomplish that it was decided to eliminate the MA-only option and only admit applicants into the PhD program. These proposals modify the MA program and simultaneously streamline the MA/PhD process.

The committee discussed the proposals and asked questions of Dr. Ana Liberato, the current DGS of the Sociology Department. It was noted that there were some clerical errors in the Change Masters Degree Program Form – course numbers listed in the form did not align with the supporting letter describing the proposal for modifying the MA program.

A motion was offered by Kevin Donohue that the SAASC recommend that the University Senate approve the MA Proposal and the Ph.D Proposal, with the understanding that a correction to the Change Masters Degree Program Form (for proper course numbers) would be included in the proposal as it goes forward.

The motion was seconded. And after brief discussion the chair called the question. The committee voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstaining. Brad Hubbard, as an ex-officio member did not cast a vote.

Subsequently, Ana Liberato submitted a corrected Change Masters Degree Form to the Chair that correctly aligned with the proposal for modifying the MA program.

That revised Change Masters Degree Form, including its original signature page and memo from the Graduate Council is included in the attached set of proposals.



Department of Sociology
1515 Patterson Office Tower
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

March 20, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Sociology proposes to streamline the MA/PhD process by making the MA program and the first two years of the PhD program identical. Although students may exit (or be invited to exit) the doctoral program after the second year with an MA degree, we intend to suspend admission into the MA-only program in the future.

This proposal also aims to prepare doctoral students to complete the post-qualifying portion of the program (proposal, research, writing, defense) more quickly by improving our pre-qualifying exam course preparation and assessment process.

Specifically, we propose to add two new required courses (SOC 680 and 780), a 2nd year paper requirement and defense, and two statistics courses (instead of one) to our doctoral program. The two new courses are: 1) SOC 680: Social Investigation (approved Jan.15, 2015); and 2) SOC 781: Quantitative Data Analysis II (approved Feb 13, 2015).

We have divided our previously required statistics course, SOC 681 (previously entitled "Research Design and Analysis"), into two courses so that students have more time to master all of the statistical techniques covered in the original course. The courses are now entitled SOC 681: Quantitative Analysis I and SOC 781: Quantitative Data Analysis II.

The new Social Investigation course (680) will be paired with an existing course, SOC 780: Special Problems in Sociology (1 credit), in a two-semester sequence aimed at preparing students (and assessing their capacity) to conduct sociological research at the doctoral level. This two-semester course sequence will assist the student to prepare the 2nd year paper.

All doctoral students must pass the Comprehensive Assessment examination upon completion of the theory and statistics sequences. They are allowed to take this examination twice. Each exam will be given one of the three following grades: a) Pass and continue in the doctoral.

degree program; b) Pass to graduate with a Masters' degree; or c) Fail. and exit without a degree The 2nd year Project Paper and defense are considered a part of the Comprehensive Assessment process.

The entire Comprehensive Assessment process consists of a written exam given at the start of the fall semester of the second year (re-takes, if necessary, are administered at the start of spring semester), a 2nd year paper, and a defense of the paper (final exam).

Students who have not completed an MA in Sociology prior to entering the doctoral program will be required to write and defend a 2nd year paper. As mentioned before, much of the design, research and writing of the second year paper will be incorporated into the two-semester, 3 credit hour SOC 680 / 780 sequence (Social Investigation [2 credits] followed by Special Problems in Sociology [1 credit]).

Students who enter the doctoral program with an MA in Sociology in hand will use the required SOC 680 / 780 sequence to prepare one of the following: 1) dissertation pilot study; 2) a dissertation proposal draft; 3) a journal-length paper to submit for presentation or publication; or 4) other project approved by the student's advisor.

Graduate students in Sociology may either elect or may be instructed to exit the doctoral program with an MA degree after successfully completing the Year 1 and 2 requirements of the doctoral program as specified below¹:

Year 1

SOC 651: Classical Sociological Theory (3 credits)

SOC 681: Quantitative Data Analysis I (3 credits)

SOC 751: Contemporary Sociological Theory (3 credits)

SOC 781: Quantitative Data Analysis II (3 credits)

Elective or approved methods courses (6 credits)

Year 2

SOC 680: Social Investigation (2 credits)

SOC 780: Special Problems in Sociology (1 credit)

Elective or approved methods courses (15 credits)

Comprehensive Assessment (exam covering theory and statistics) to be taken in Fall, Year 2

Students without an MA in Sociology:

Second Year Paper to be completed in Spring, Year 2

Final examination: Second Year Paper Defense

Students who enter with an MA in Sociology:

¹ This schedule is predicated on full-time status. Part-time students will not be expected to conform to the timing of this schedule.

Dissertation pilot study, dissertation proposal draft, or journal article-length paper

If MA phase of the program is successfully completed, the student will proceed to...

Year 3

Elective courses, independent study courses (max of 9 credits) or residency credits (18 credits)

Qualifying Exam

Dissertation proposal & defense

Year 4

Research, write and defend dissertation

General PHD Program Requirements

39 credit hours total (18 core course credits + 21 non-core course credits)

Minimum 12 hours of the 21 non-core courses must be from Sociology

Maximum of 9 credit hours in independent study

Maximum of 6 credit hours of independent study from one faculty member

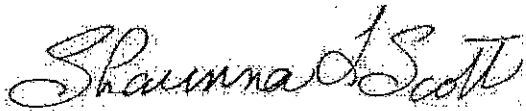
12-hour specialization area approved by Advisory Committee

Must earn a "B" or higher in all core courses

Minimum GPA requirement: 3.0

Please direct any questions to me at Shaunna.scott@uky.edu or 859-771-4698.

Sincerely,



Shaunna L. Scott, PhD
Associate Professor, Sociology
Director of Graduate Studies
Editor, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*

CHANGE DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION

College:	Arts & Science	Department:	Sociology
Current Major Name:	Sociology	Proposed Major Name:	no change
Current Degree Title:	PhD in Sociology	Proposed Degree Title:	no change
Formal Option(s):	NA	Proposed Formal Option(s):	no change
Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:	N/A	Proposed Specialty Fields w/in Formal Options:	N/A
Date of Contact with Associate Provost for Academic Administration ¹ :			
Bulletin (yr. & pgs):	CIP Code ¹ :	Today's Date:	
Accrediting Agency (if applicable):			
Requested Effective Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semester following approval.		OR <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date ² :
Dept. Contact Person:	Shaunna Scott	Phone:	7-6882 Email: shaunna.scott@uky.edu

CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

		Current	Proposed
1.	Number of transfer credits allowed (Maximum is Graduate School limit of 9 hours or 25% of the credit hours needed to fulfill the pre-qualifying residency requirement)	9	<i>no change</i>
2.	Residence requirement (if applicable) (minimum of one year before or after Qualifying Exams)	36hrs/2 yrs.	36hrs/2yrs.
3.	Language(s) and/or skill(s) required	NA	N/A
4.	Provisions for monitoring progress and termination criteria	Annual Progress Review; Termination criteria identical to Graduate School	Annual progress review; Comprehensive Assessment Exam; 2 nd year paper and defense; Termination criteria identical to Graduate School
5.	Total Credit Hours Required	36	36

¹ Prior to filling out this form, you MUST contact the Associate Provost for Academic Administration (APAA). If you do not know the CIP code, the APAA can provide you with that during the contact.

² Program changes are typically made effective for the semester following approval. No changes will be made effective until all approvals are received.

CHANGE DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

(At least one-half must be at 600+ level & two-thirds must be in organized courses.)

6.	Required courses <div style="text-align: right;">SOC651, 751, 681, 682A, 682B, 21 elective hours</div>	SOC 651, 751, 680, 780, SOC781, SOC 681/PS572, 6 credit hours of approved method course(s), 15 elective hrs
7.	Required distribution of courses within program (if applicable)	27 of 36 hrs No change
8.	Minor area or course outside program required	No No change
9.	Distribution of courses levels required	Same as Graduate School Rules No change
10.	Qualifying Examination	Yes No change
11.	Explain whether the proposed changes to the program (as described in sections 1 to 10) involve courses offered by another department/program. <u>Routing Signature Log must include approval by faculty of additional department(s).</u>	
	Sociology and Political Science alternate teaching the Quantitative Data Analysis I (SOC681/PS 572) and Quantitative Data Analysis II (SOC 781) courses to our graduate students. Sociology students may fulfill the 6 hours of approved methods courses by taking any social science methods course, which have been approved by the Graduate Faculty. PS and SOC have already begun to share methods instruction of our graduate students. Permission has been sought from other departments to start sharing or rotating methods instruction as well (e.g., anthropology, geography).	
12.	Other requirements not covered above?	
	Students must pass the Comprehensive Assessment examination upon completion of the theory and statistics sequences. They are allowed to take this examination twice. Each exam will be given one of the three following grades: a) Pass and continue in the doctoral degree program; b) Pass to graduate with a Masters' degree; or c) Fail and exit without a degree. The 2 nd year Project Paper and defense are considered a part of the Comprehensive Assessment process. The entire Comprehensive Assessment process consists of a written exam given at the start of the fall semester of the second year (re-takes, if necessary, are administered at the start of spring semester), a 2 nd year paper, and a defense of the paper (final exam).	
13.	Please explain the rationale for changes. If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.	
	We are streamlining the PhD program requirements so that the MA matches the first two years of the doctoral program. This results in an increase of requirements for the MA, including additional core required courses specified above as well as the addition of a Comprehensive Assessment examination. Students will be permitted to exit the doctoral program in the following circumstances: a) they decide not to pursue a doctoral degree; b) they fail the Comprehensive Assessment examination twice; or c) the Advisory Committee recommends (and the majority of the Graduate Faculty in Sociology approve) that they exit the program with an MA.	

CHANGE DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

Signature Routing Log

General Information:

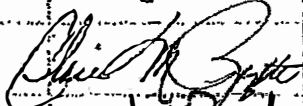

Proposal Name: SOC Doctoral Streamlining

Proposal Contact Person Name: Shaunna Scott Phone: 7-6882 Email: shaunna.scott@uky.edu

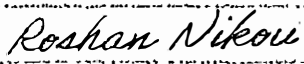
INSTRUCTIONS:

Identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal; note the date of approval; offer a contact person for each entry; and obtain signature of person authorized to report approval.

Internal College Approvals and Course Cross-Listing Approvals:

Reviewing Group	Date Approved	Contact Person (name/phone/email)	Signature
Sociology Department	8/27/14	Claire Renzetti / 7-6424 / claire.renzetti@uky.edu	
A & S BPC	4/21/15	Anna Bosch / / Anna.bosch@uky.edu	
		/ /	
		/ /	
		/ /	

External-to-College Approvals:

Council	Date Approved	Signature	Approval of Revision ³
Undergraduate Council			
Graduate Council	5/7/15		
Health Care Colleges Council			
Senate Council Approval		University Senate Approval	

Comments:

³ Councils use this space to indicate approval of revisions made subsequent to that council's approval, if deemed necessary by the revising council.



Department of Sociology
1501 Patterson Office Tower
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

March 29, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the department, I hereby express support for the Department of Sociology's proposal to streamline the MA/PhD process by making the MA and the first two years of the PhD program identical. Although students may exit (or be invited to exit) the doctoral program after the second year with an MA degree, our intent in the future is to accept only students who wish to pursue a doctoral degree.

The Sociology Department unanimously voted to implement this change in the spring of 2014. The proposal delineates the course changes and requirements that are necessary to make the proposed change workable. These, too, have been unanimously approved by the Sociology Graduate Faculty.

The Sociology Department decided to make these changes in order to raise the quality of the students in the program and to improve retention and time to degree.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call (7-6424) or email me (claire.renzetti@uky.edu). Thank you for your attention to the Department's proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Claire M. Renzetti".

Claire M. Renzetti, Ph.D.

Judi Conway Patton Endowed Chair for Studies of Violence Against Women
Professor and Chair of Sociology

SOC 680-401: Social Investigation (Fall 2015)

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

@ 1545 Patterson Office Tower

SECTION 1. Course Description

Instructor

Dr. Keiko Tanaka
1535 Patterson Office Tower

E-mail: ktanaka@email.uky.edu
Ph: (859) 257-6878

Office Hours & Preferred Contact Methods

Wednesdays 6:00pm – 6:45pm or by appointment. Please contact me via e-mail or phone.

Course Overview

This course is a core research design course in the graduate program of the Department of Sociology. The primary objectives are to: (a) help you understand the process of social science research and (b) build your skills to develop an original research project in sociology or related social science disciplines. In order to accomplish these objectives, the course is organized around “sociology in action” – reading, writing, discussing how to practice sociology through research activities and learning from our “masters,” i.e., our faculty members and other guest speakers. Topics covered in this course include developing effective research questions, selecting appropriate research methods and theoretical framing, writing and revising a proposal, acquiring an IRB approval for your research, and developing and managing your research budget and time.

The final product of this course is a proposal for your second-year research paper to be defended by the end of the next semester. In order to assist your journey in sociological research, this course consists of five distinctive types of activities: (1) discussion seminars, (2) “tricks of trade” sessions, (3) workshops, (4) faculty panels, and (5) professional development panels. In the discussion seminar, through reading research monographs and textbook chapters, we will also examine how a sociological study is designed and executed. In the “tricks of trade” session, we will explore various techniques to build competency a particular component of the research process. You will practice these techniques through a series of writing assignments, which aim to help you successfully draft a research proposal step by step. These writing assignments will be also “workshopped” in the class so that you can improve your proposal based on the suggestions made by your peers. Faculty members from the Sociology Department and other social science departments will be invited to share with you their “tricks of trade.” Representatives from the key research support units on campus will be invited to help you understand how our intellectual activities are institutionalized and become “academic research.”

Prerequisites

Graduate standing, or an approval by the instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you are expected to:

- (a) Develop an understanding of the key ingredients and processes involved in sociological research;
- (b) Learn an ability to position your scholarship within the wider discipline;
- (c) Acquire skills to apply some of the fundamental sociological perspectives and concepts as well as methodological approaches and tools into your own research project; and
- (d) Articulate your ideas with the language of sociology through writing as well as visual and oral presentations.

Required Materials

- Alford, Robert R. 1998. *The Craft of Inquiry: Theories, Methods, Evidence*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Becker, Howard S. 1998. *Tricks of the Trade: How to Think About Your Research While You're Doing It*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- 3 Research monographs and other supplementary readings

Grading Scales

Grade	%	Pts.
A	90-100	450-500
B	80-89	400-449
C	70-79	350-399
E	< 70	< 350

Assessments

Weekly Seminar Contribution 5 pts x 15 sessions	20%	100 pts
Research Proposal Written (300 pts) Oral presentation & defense (100 pts)	80%	400 pts
	-----	-----
	100%	500 pts

I. Research Proposal (Weight: 80%)

During the semester, you will develop a proposal for your second year research paper on a topic of your interest. The written proposal must be submitted by the last week of November (300 points or 60% of your course grade). Oral component of the examination will take place during the final examination week (100 points or 20% of your course grade). The proposal must be no longer than single-spaced 10 pages and follows the format requirements used by the NSF-SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant Program (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/soc/socck11.jsp>). Please use *The NSF Grant Proposal Guide* to organize your proposal. Your final proposal, due on December 2, 2015, will be shared with your advisor who will be invited to attend your oral defense on December 16, 2015 (time to be determined). Prior to the development of the final proposal, you must submit a proposal draft twice to be workshopped by your peers.

2. Weekly Seminar Contribution (Weight: 20%)

For each class session, students are expected to have completed all the reading and writing assignments in order to actively participate in various learning activities. All of your writing assignments, except the IRB Certificate, will be shared with your classmates as part of the course discussion materials. Your weekly seminar contribution will be graded as follows:

Points	
5	Completed all the assignments and contributed effectively to the class.
4	Completed all the assignments, but did not contribute effectively to the class.
3	Did not complete all the assignments.
0	Absent from the class.

Section 2. Course Policies

Attendance & Excusable Absences

Attendance is mandatory. For the second and each subsequent unexcused absence, the final average will be lowered by 30 points (see below). Students need to notify me of absences prior to class when possible. S.R.5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit "reasonable cause for nonattendance" by me.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying me in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Information regarding dates of major religious holidays may be obtained through the religious liaison, Mr. Jake Karnes (859-257-2754).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused or unexcused) per university policy.

Penalty for Absences

Absence	Pts.
1	0
2	30
3	60
4	90
5	120

Verification of Absences

Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. Senate Rule 5.2.4.2 states that faculty have the right to request "appropriate verification" when students claim an excused absence because of illness or death in the family. Appropriate notification of absences due to university-related trips is required prior to the absence.

Makeup Work

When there is an excused absence, you must submit within one week an essay based on the readings assigned on the day of your absence. This essay must be single-spaced in the length of 2-4 pages. It must succinctly summarize key points of the readings and develop your responses.

Late Submission

All assignments must be submitted by the specified date and time. Otherwise instructed, all assignments should **NOT** be submitted electronically via e-mail or Blackboard. Points will be deducted from your assignment for late submission, **UNLESS** you make an arrangement for extension with me at least 24 hours before the deadline. The percentages deducted from the total points of a given assignment are listed below. Please note that Saturday and Sunday **WILL** be counted toward the number of dates passed the deadline.

<u>Penalty Scale (%)</u>	
1-day late	10
2 days late	30
3-days late	50
4-days late	70
5-days late	100

Policy on Academic Accommodations Due to Disability

Please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address: jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

Academic Integrity, Cheating & Plagiarism

Per university policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the university may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Part II of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (available online <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about the question of plagiarism involving their own work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be.

Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone. When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain (Section 6.3.1).

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Classroom Behavior, Decorum & Civility

In addition to cheating and plagiarism, classroom demeanor has become an increasingly significant problem on campus across the nation, even at the graduate level! UK Sociology Department is committed to respect the dignity of all and to value differences among members of our academic community. Seminar discussions and debates in this course are for academic discovery through exercises of our right to respectfully disagree from time-to-time. You have the right to take reasoned exception and to voice opinions contrary to those offered by me and other students (S.R. 6.1.2). Equally, I have both the right and the responsibility to ensure that all academic discourse occurs in a context characterized by respect and civility. I will **NOT** tolerate attacks of a personal nature or statements denigrating another on the basis of race, sex, religion, sexual orientation, age, national/regional origin or other such irrelevant factors.

Courtesy

Courtesy is a sign that you are a responsible adult. Sometimes your life circumstances will force you to miss a class or delay the submission of your assignment. Whether your absence from the class or delay in the submission of an assignment is excusable or not, you need to let me know so that I will be able to suggest a necessary arrangement for you to catch-up the work. Please communicate to me via phone or e-mail that you will miss a class or your assignment will be submitted late. That's called being courteous and respectful toward others.

SECTION 3. COURSE SCHEDULE SUMMARY

Wk	Date	1 st Section (7:00-7:55pm)	2 nd Section (8:05-9:00pm)	Writing Assignments Due
1	8/26	Course Overview & Introduction: Seeing through Sociological Lenses	Trick Session 1. Literature Search	Topic Narratives
2	9/2	Profession Development 1. IRB Process	Trick Session 2. Research Ethics	
3	9/9	Book Discussion: Research Monograph 1.	Trick Session 3. Writing Research Questions	IRB Certificate
4	9/16	Sociology as a Craft	Trick Session 4. Theorizing Research Questions	Question Statement
5	9/23	Faculty Panel 1. Integrating Theories	Trick Session 5. Literature Reviews & EndNote	List of Bibliography
6	9/30	Faculty Panel 2. Selecting Methods	Trick Session 6. Operationalization & Hypothesis Building	
7	10/7	Book Discussion: Research Monograph 2.	Trick Session 7. Designing a Project,	Proposal Outline
8	10/14	Professional Development 2. Proposal Development Office	Workshop 1. Proposal Outline	
9	10/21	Sociology as an Institution	Trick Session 8. Writing a Proposal	
10	10/28	Faculty Panel 3. (Re)Submitting Proposals	Trick Session 9. Reviewing a Proposal	Proposal Draft 1
11	11/4	Book Discussion: Research Monograph 3	Workshop 2. Proposal Draft 1	
12	11/11	Sociology as a Politics	Trick Session 10. Submitting Grant Proposals	Proposal Draft 2
13	11/18	Faculty Panel 4. Sociological Research for Whom?	Workshop 3. Proposal Draft 2	
14	11/25	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		
15	12/2	Reflexive Sociology	Trick Session 11. Managing the Budget & Time	Research Proposal Final
16	12/9	Workshop 4. Oral Defense	Conclusion	
Exam	12/16	Final Exam Oral Defense		

SOC 781: Quantitative Data Analysis II
Spring 2016
Thursdays, 4:00-6:30pm
POT 1506

Instructor

Name: Prof. XXXX
Office: POT XXX
Office Hours: XXXX
E-mail: XXX
Phone Number: XXXX
Preferred Methods of Communication: XXX

Course Description

This intermediate statistics course emphasizes the fundamentals of multivariate regression. The first half of the course covers the classical linear regression model estimated with Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), as well as its assumptions and some of its complexities. The second half of the course examines non-linear statistical models estimated with Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE). The goal is to develop a foundational toolkit to model a variety of dependent variables. The course will teach students how to make decisions about how to model data, how to estimate equations, and how to solve common problems with multivariate regressions. This is an applied course that will utilize Stata to analyze quantitative social science data.

Learning Goals

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Identify appropriate statistical techniques to answer research questions
- Understand when OLS or MLE estimation is most appropriate for analysis
- Perform multivariate regressions
- Diagnose and remedy common problems with multivariate regressions
- Become proficient in using Stata for statistical analyses
- Interpret and convey results from multivariate regressions
- Design and execute a research study using multivariate regressions

Prerequisites

SOC 681, PS 572 or permission of instructor

Students who are granted permission of instructor are expected to be comfortable with basic data management, command syntax, and analysis with Stata.

Attendance and Grades

Students are expected to attend every class and stay for the entire time. While it is understood that occasionally students may not be able to attend class, students are fully responsible for the material that they miss due to their absences. This class moves at a very fast pace and absences will be difficult to recover from.

Assignments are due on the dates listed on the Course Schedule below. ***Late assignments are not accepted and there are no make-up opportunities for any of the graded assignments.*** Rare exceptions may be granted for unusual circumstances, but this is very uncommon for graduate students.

Requests for extensions must be submitted by email with proper documentation prior to the due date for the assignment. Requests for accommodations due to religious observances must be submitted by email at least one week prior to the due date for the assignment.

Course grades will be determined based on four components:

Problem sets	13 X 1%	=	13%
Article reviews	3 X 5%	=	15%
Lab exercises	4 X 5%	=	20%
Exams	2 X 11%	=	22%
Final project proposal		=	5%
Final project		=	25%

- **Problem sets** are short assignments related to the required readings that are designed to encourage you to read actively and to ensure that you are prepared for class. These assignments will be graded as complete or incomplete. Answers will be provided at the beginning of class. We will use these assignments to start our discussion of the topic for the day. **Problem sets are your ticket to class. If you do not complete the assignment then you are not allowed in class that day and you will have to learn the material on your own.** Exceptions to this rule will only be made under extreme circumstances with proper documentation.
- **Article reviews** are short (2-3 pages each) writing assignments critically evaluating published quantitative work. Students are not allowed to collaborate on these assignments. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*
- **Lab exercises** are graded computing and problem-solving exercises that will be completed outside of class. They are designed to apply several weeks of material to an actual dataset. Students are allowed to work together on these labs, although the final written products submitted for grades should be unique to each individual. Labs are due on the dates listed in the Course Schedule below. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*
- The **two exams** will be in-class tests consisting of a written component and a computing exercise. You will be allowed to use your course notes and books during the exams, but you will complete the exams independently. *Students are expected to take the exams on the dates listed below.* Exceptions will only be made for extreme circumstances with proper documentation.
- For the **final project** students will formulate research questions, select an appropriate data set to analyze, and perform appropriate statistical analyses to answer their research questions. Students will demonstrate their ability to apply the various techniques learned throughout the semester to their own research projects. Collaboration is not allowed on this assignment. This assignment is required to pass the class. **Students who do not turn in a final project that meets the minimum requirements will fail the course, regardless of their grades on the other course assignments.** Students will write a **short proposal** midway through the course to get approval for the final project. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*

Final letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A = 100-90%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- E = 59% and below

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to University officials. It is the student's responsibility to understand the nature of these offenses and definitions are provided in the University's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities at <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>. All violations of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to section 6.4 of the UK Student Rights and Responsibilities. Note that one likely penalty for these offenses will be failing the course.

Classroom and Learning Accommodations

Students with documented disabilities who need special accommodations or services for this course should speak with me during the first week of the semester. You must provide a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754).

Readings

- Gujarati, Damodar N., and Dawn Porter. (2009). Basic Econometrics, 5th ed. McGraw Hill. (The fourth edition should suffice, but please make sure you are reading the correct chapters.)
- Long, Scott J., and Jeremy Freese. (2005). Regression Models for Categorical and Dependent Variables Using Stata, 2nd ed. Stata Press.
- Additional readings will be available on Blackboard.

Please note that reading statistics books is very different from other types of reading. You typically have to read slowly and re-read certain sections several times. Be careful to allot enough time to complete the readings before class. The problem sets are designed to encourage you to read actively and practice what you are learning.

Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change during the course of the semester. All changes will be posted on Blackboard in a timely manner.

Date	Topics	Readings	Assignments Due at 4:00 p.m.
Jan 14	Review of bivariate regression	Gujarati Ch. 1 & 2	Problem set
Jan 21	OLS estimation and inference	Gujarati Ch. 3 -5	Problem set
Jan 28	Multiple regression	Gujarati Ch. 7 & 8	Problem set Article review 1
Feb 4	Moderation	Gujarati Ch. 9	Problem set Lab 1
Feb 11	Multicollinearity and heteroskedasticity	Gujarati Ch. 10 & 11	Problem set
Feb 18	Autocorrelation	Gujarati Ch. 12	Problem set Article review 2
Feb 25	Nonlinearity, omitted variables & influential cases	Linneman Ch. 15 (BB) Gujarati Ch. 13	Problem set
Mar 3	Mediation and endogeneity	Gujarati Ch. 18	Problem set Lab 2
Mar 10	Exam 1		Exam 1
Mar 17	Introduction to maximum likelihood estimation	Gujarati Ch. 15.1 – 15.4 Scott & Long Ch. 3	Problem set
Mar 21-25	SPRING BREAK		
Mar 31	Logit & probit	Gujarati Ch. 15.5 – 15.10 Scott & Long Ch. 4	Problem set Final project
Apr 3	Ordered logit & probit	Scott & Long Ch. 5	Problem set Lab 3
Apr 7	Multinomial logit	Scott & Long Ch. 6	Problem set Article review 3
Apr 14	Poisson & negative binomial	Gujarati Ch. 15.12 Scott & Long Ch. 8	Problem set

Apr 21	Presenting results	TBD	Lab 4
April 28	Exam 2		Exam 2
May 5, 5:00 p.m.	Final Projects due		Final Project

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