

**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**PSYCHOLOGY 218 - SECTION 921  
Analysis of Behavioural Data**

**Summer 2008 Term 1B (June 16 – July 25)  
<http://www.psych.ubc.ca/courses/psych>  
3-Credits**

**COURSE DIRECTOR:**

Dr. Kevin Hamilton

**Office:** 3531 Kenny Bldg.

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 17:00-18:00

**Mail Box:** Kenny Room 2508

**Phone:** 604-599-2606 (KUC)

**UBC** 604-822-6205 (office hours only, no messages please)

**Main Psychology Office UBC:** 604-822-2755

**Email:** kevin.hamilton@kwantlen.ca

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

**Name:** Lindsay Nagamatsu

**Office:** 3504 Kenny

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Mail Box:** Kenny Room 2508

**Email:** lindsay@psych.ubc.ca

Where possible, most problems and issues should be directed initially to your Teaching Assistant

**LECTURES:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 18:00-21:00  
Swing 122

**READING LIST:**

Gravetter, F.J. and Wallnau, L.B. (2008)  
*Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences*, Sixth Edition, Thomson / Wadsworth (Required)

Study Guide to accompany Gravetter, F.J. and Wallnau, L.B. (2008) *Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences*, Sixth Edition (Recommended)

## **GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will acquaint students with basic descriptive and inferential statistical procedures for the behavioural sciences. General skills learned include data interpretation, problem solving, decision making, conceptual and critical thinking.

This is a condensed summer course which consists of two 3 hour lectures per week. It is recommended that students allocate at least 6 additional hours per week to studying and working on practice problems. Group studying is highly recommended.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:**

You will be responsible for course readings as indicated under 'Topics and Required Readings'.

It is necessary that you read the appropriate sections in the text before coming to class and that you devote considerable time practicing statistical procedures as well as assigned and unassigned problems throughout the course. This is essential in order to understand and keep up with material covered during classes.

It is also recommended that you examine the basic mathematics review (Appendix A of your text) at the beginning of the course to ensure that these fundamental skills are fully understood.

**Note:** This is a condensed summer course with a statutory holiday. There are only 11 classes of instruction to cover the same amount of material that is usually covered in a standard 13 class course. As a result, students will be expected to read ahead and in some cases cover material on their own.

## **TESTS:**

There are 4 tests in this course. Each is on a specific module of material. Tests will include multiple choice items, calculations/problem solving and possibly short answer questions. Tentative dates for these tests are indicated under 'Topics and Required Readings'. Should these dates need to be changed, you will be notified in class at least one class in advance.

**When writing tests, please bring a dark pencil (N0. 2 or HB).** This is required for machine scoring your multiple choice answer sheets. Also, you will need **picture ID and your student number** (found on your library card).

## **MISSED TESTS:**

Students are expected to write tests at the scheduled times. If you are ill and cannot take a particular test you are required to contact the instructor within 48 hours. A verifiable doctor's note is mandatory in order to write an equivalent form of the missed test and missed tests are to be written within 3 days of returning to class. Times for writing missed tests are to be coordinated with your Teaching Assistant. Please give your doctor's note directly to the Teaching Assistant.

## **PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT GRADING POLICY:**

In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology courses are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. According to departmental norms, the mean grade in a 300-level class is 70 for a good class, 68 for an average class, and 66 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13. The corresponding figures for 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 67, 65, and 63, with a standard deviation of 14. **Scaling** is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department.

### **Subject Credit:**

In addition to the 4 tests, you have the opportunity to earn up to 2 extra percentage points on your overall final grade by participating in studies regularly conducted by the Psychology Department. This provides the valuable opportunity to observe the research process directly and to contribute to the ongoing research activities at UBC. The extra grades are obtained by signing up for the Human Subject Pool (HSP) posted on the main bulletin board in the Kenny Psychology Building (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) or through the web site <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. 1/2 percentage point is assigned to your final grade for each 30 min. of participation.

Credits can be recorded and tracked via the subject credit website <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca>. Your credits are added to your grade at the end of the course. Make sure that you retain your portion of the experimental credit receipt in the event that verification of participation is required when the final grades are compiled.

As an alternative to obtaining subject credit by participating in studies regularly conducted by the Psychology Department, students can participate in the Library Option. For details, please contact your course director. Library option assignments are to be submitted directly to Dr. Elizabeth Dunn, email: [edunn@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:edunn@psych.ubc.ca).

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

Please note that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at UBC. Academic dishonesty can take many forms depending upon the nature of course assignments. You are responsible for reading the UBC Calendar for the university policies on cheating and plagiarism. Also see *Plagiarism Avoided: Taking Responsibility for Your Work – A booklet for students on plagiarism, including techniques for avoiding it* distributed by the Faculty of Arts.

In this course, academic dishonesty pertains primarily to the issue of cheating on exams. Examination protocol is posted on the board and reviewed prior to each exam.

### **Special Needs:**

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family

obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TOPICS AND REQUIRED READINGS</u></b>
June 17	<b>Introduction to Statistics and Frequency Distributions (Ch. 1 &amp; 2)</b>
June 19	<b>Central Tendency (Ch. 3)</b>
June 24	<b>Variability (Ch. 4)</b>
<b><u>June 26</u></b>	<b><u>Test 1 (Ch. 1,2,3,4; 20%)</u></b> <b>Z – Scores (Ch. 5)</b> <b>Probability (Ch. 6)</b>
July 1	<b>No Classes</b>
July 3	<b>Probability and Samples: The Distribution of Sample Means (Ch. 7)</b>
<b><u>July 8</u></b>	<b><u>Test 2 (Ch. 5,6,7; 25%)</u></b> <b>Introduction to Hypothesis Testing (Ch. 8)</b>
July 10	<b>Introduction to the t Statistic (Ch. 9)</b>
July 15	<b>Hypothesis Tests with Two Independent Samples (Ch. 10)</b>
<b><u>July 17</u></b>	<b><u>Test 3 (Ch. 8,9,10; 30%)</u></b> <b>ANOVA (Ch. 13)</b>
July 22	<b>ANOVA (Ch. 13)</b> <b>Correlation and Regression (Ch. 15)</b>
<b><u>July 24</u></b>	<b><u>Test 4 (Ch. 13&amp;15; 25%)</u></b>

- Following Test 4, HSP participation credits will be reviewed
- Outlines for creating your in-class notes are located at: <http://www.psych.ubc.ca/~kevin/>