Applied Statistics
Family Relations and Applied Nutrition
FRAN 6010
Fall 2015

Instructor: Scott B. Maitland, Ph.D.
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smaitlan@uoguelph.ca

Office Hours: Wed. 1:30 - 3:00
other days by appt.

Class: Thurs. 11:30 - 12:50 in MACS 331
Thurs. 1:00 - 2:20 in MACS 243

Web Site: There is also a Courselink site for the course.

Course Description
This course is designed to provide graduate students with a conceptual understanding of the
issues and methods related to descriptive and univariate statistical analyses, regression modeling,
logistic regression, multivariate analysis of variance/covariance, and repeated measures analysis
of variance/covariance models (including univariate and multivariate applications) appropriate in
applied social/health science research. The course covers conceptual and practical applications
of statistical analyses with emphasis on selection of appropriate methods and models to address
both simple and complex, multi-factorial data. This course is data-driven and students will learn
primarily through hands-on analytic experiences accompanied by in-class lectures and readings.

Required Readings

The book is available at the bookstore. Readings (e.g., published articles or textbook chapters)
and SPSS guides (i.e., chapters from SPSS manuals) will be distributed or made available for
duplication.

Required Software
SPSS for Windows will be used for this course. This program is available in the undergraduate
data labs in both HAFA and MacKinnon buildings. For those wishing to obtain a copy of SPSS
the free concurrent version is available from:

http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/software/software-distribution
Recommended Supplemental Materials


A good introductory statistics text to review basic concepts is also helpful.

Course Objectives
Many recent advances in computers, software, and statistics provide new “tools” for scientists to employ. Of course, those who fear statistics like the plague may wish they completed their graduate training 50 years ago when a basic understanding of regression and analysis of variance (ANOVA) was all that was required to survive! Regression and ANOVA still form the primary basis of most analytic methods and we will explore many extensions and variations of these techniques. The unique combination of backgrounds and the various foci of research among class participants make a course like this very interesting. The basic tools remain the same and share a common language across disciplines, and the new methods you will gain will be applicable to your specific interests.

*In this course you will have the opportunity to:*
- Advance your knowledge about testable hypotheses and understanding how they relate to complex datasets
- Expand your abilities to work with SPSS to include univariate and multivariate analytic procedures

*And, not surprisingly, we will emphasize:*
- Interpretation of computer output, focusing on critical components necessary for properly reporting results, and understand what story the data “tell”
- Practice writing skills necessary for technical reports, methods and results sections
- Preparation for thesis work, publication efforts, and future professional activities by adding advanced methods to the methodological “tool box” we started in the earlier module

Course Structure
Class time will be divided into two parts: (1) introduction of new material in lecture (MACS 331), and, (2) demonstrations and interpretations of statistical techniques using empirical examples (MACS 243).

Course Requirements
The purpose of this course it to provide you with the ability to form hypotheses, select appropriate statistical tests, conduct statistical analyses, interpret your results, and use this
information in a manner to help you to be productive in both your graduate training and your chosen profession. It is not the purpose of this course to overload you with symbols and equations. Ultimately, becoming an informed user of statistics and statistical software is the goal of this course. Your efforts will be evaluated accordingly.

**Evaluation**

**Data Applications**
Problem sets will be assigned that apply to topics considered in class. There will be three assignments contributing a total of 65% to your final grade. You are expected have your SPSS output available (in case your results do not match) and a write-up that includes a modified version of an APA methods, results, and brief discussion section, demonstrating your understanding. Examples of why this is called a “modified” APA format include reporting assessment of normality and data screening procedures, as well as including reports for assorted diagnostics (e.g., Levene’s, appropriate post-hoc analyses, regression diagnostics, etc). The best method for learning a statistical software package, a new analysis, or to understand output is to actually do it yourself. Whereas I encourage you to ask your colleagues questions, you are strongly urged to do your own work rather than relying on someone else for answers. Your ability to complete the assignments will correspond directly to your ability to complete the final take-home examination.

**Take-Home Final**
There will be one take-home final assignment/examination contributing 35% to your final grade. You are expected to work alone to complete this exam.

*Keep the following issue in mind:*

*More ≠ better!* The take-home exam format does not mean you have to write hundreds of pages. You are expected to answer the questions and discuss and interpret the results. Concise scientific writing is actually more difficult to accomplish than lengthy diatribes. Strive to be concise!

I will try to maximize the amount of time you have to complete the exam while I ensure that I have time to complete assessment and submit grades on time!

**E-mail Communication**
As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

**When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**
When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the graduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

[http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e1400.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e1400.shtml)
Drop Date
The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday, November 6th. Refer to the Graduate Calendar for the schedule of dates:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/sched/sched-dates-f10.shtml

Academic Misconduct
The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Graduate Calendar:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e1687.shtml

Recording of Materials
Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Assignments are due by 5 p.m. on due dates. Late papers will be accepted with a penalty of 5% deduction per day.

Class Schedule and Reading Assignments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Overview of stats/SPSS, hypothesis testing, basic group comparisons</td>
<td>Field 1-5, 9</td>
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<td>Optional: T&amp;F 1-4, Assignment #1 handed out</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing &amp; basic comparisons, con’t</td>
<td>Field 1-5, 9-11</td>
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<td>September 24</td>
<td>ANOVA including two way designs &amp; intro to</td>
<td>Field 11-13, 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Regression concepts and practice (Simple Linear Regression, Correlation &amp; Partial Correlation)</td>
<td>Field 7,8</td>
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<td>Optional: T&amp;F 5, also Norusis 21-23 is worth copying</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Multiple regression (simultaneous, stepwise, and hierarchical models), model building, and diagnostics</td>
<td>Field 7,8</td>
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<td>Optional: T&amp;F 5, also Norusis 21-23 is worth copying</td>
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<td>Assignment #2 turned in</td>
<td>Assignment #2 turned in</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>Introduction to multivariate topics</td>
<td>Field 16; A skimpy intro to matrix algebra (Tabachnick &amp; Fidell, 2007)</td>
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<td>Matrix Algebra basics</td>
<td>Multivariate analysis of variance and covariance (Huberty &amp; Petoskey, 2000)</td>
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<td>Begin Multivariate Analysis of Variance (MANOVA)</td>
<td>GLM Multivariate Analysis (SPSS Manual)</td>
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<td>Optional: T&amp;F 7, 8, 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>MANCOVA, Repeated Measures Analysis of Variance (univariate and multivariate, plus covariates)</td>
<td>Field 12, 14, 16</td>
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<td>Stevens (1996); browse Hertzog &amp; Nesselroade (2003) for the gist of analysis of change</td>
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<td>GLM Repeated Measures (SPSS Manual)</td>
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<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading/Notes</td>
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<td>October 29</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Path Analysis</strong></td>
<td>Baron &amp; Kenny, 1986 (required)</td>
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<td>November 5</td>
<td><strong>Path Analysis: Mediators and Moderators</strong></td>
<td>Field 10</td>
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<td>Baron &amp; Kenny, 1986 (required)</td>
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<td>Others if interested in examples: Keller et al., x2; Navara &amp; James, 2002;</td>
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<td>Paquet, et al., 2003; Wahlin, et al., 2003; Edwards (2009); LeBreton et al.</td>
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<td>Turn in Assignment #3</td>
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<td>November 12</td>
<td><strong>Logistic Regression</strong></td>
<td>Field 18, 19</td>
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<td>Afifi &amp; Clark (1996)</td>
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<td>Optional: T&amp;F 10, Logistic Regression (George &amp; Mallery, 2001; Norusis, 2005)</td>
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<td>November 19</td>
<td>**More on Logistic Regression and Discriminant</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
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<td>Function Analysis (DFA or DA)**</td>
<td>Take-home exam due date TBA</td>
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<td>November 26</td>
<td><strong>Final Class - Wrap up of all concepts</strong></td>
<td>Course evals</td>
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*Note.* T&F=Tabachnick & Fidell.
References


