SOCS 225 Statistics for the Social Sciences (CRN: 62205)
3 Credits
MW 11.30 a.m. – 12.45 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR: Lisamarie Bensman, Ph.D.
OFFICE: Na’auao 122
OFFICE HOURS: Drop-in (no appointment needed): MW 11 – 11.30 a.m. & 2.15 – 4 p.m.
By-appointment: MW 4 – 5 p.m. and other days/times as arranged
Online office hours also available by request, days/times flexible
EMAIL: bensman@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2018

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT
Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
This course covers statistical methods related to behavioral sciences including frequency distributions, graphic methods, central tendency, variability, correlation, reliability, and tests of significance. DS (3 hours lecture).

Pre-Requisite(s): Credit in a 100-level (or above) Social Science course, placement into English 100, and placement into Math 103 or higher; or consent of instructor.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other than Class Times
For this course, in addition to attending class, you are expected to complete a number of assignments outside of class time, including reading the textbook, homework assignments, studying for quizzes, and a project.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Use descriptive and inferential statistics to summarize and analyze raw data.
2. Present statistical data in graphs and tables.
3. Use statistical formulas to investigate the relationships among variables, including central tendency, correlations, and percentages.
4. Use t-test, f-test, and z-test to test hypotheses and statistical significance.

COURSE TASKS.
In addition to our face-to-face lectures, we will use Laulima throughout the semester. Laulima is WCC’s online course management system, which you might have used in previous courses. On Laulima, you will find our official class gradebook, a resource folder containing important class materials (such as class PPs, data sets, and assignment instruction sheets), class announcements,
and our syllabus along with a number of other useful items. Access to Laulima requires your regular school username and password.

**Required Readings & Materials:** This class is very hands-on, but we will still have to do some reading. Our text is open-source: OpenStax College (2013). *Introductory Statistics*. Houston, TX: Author.

Use can access a free .pdf version of the using this link: [https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/introductory-statistics/get](https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/introductory-statistics/get)

Additionally, we will work extensively with PSPP, a freeware statistical computer program, ([https://www.gnu.org/software/pspp/](https://www.gnu.org/software/pspp/)). While the program is available for use during class on departmental laptops, I highly recommend downloading a copy for your personal computer as you will need to use PSPP for homework.

PowerPoints for the course, along with homework assignments, are available on the class website. Readings are essential to keeping up in this class; without the readings, you will likely be lost during our lectures and hands-on computer work.

**PowerPoint Slides:** Lecture slides are posted on the course website ([https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal](https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal)). These PowerPoints are to supplement your own note-taking, not replace it. The posted PPs do not contain all the information we cover in class, but they are a great place to start taking your own lecture notes.

**Coursework:** Statistics are a set of skills and tools that you will learn to employ when needed. As such, you are graded based on how well you can use said tools. You have many opportunities to demonstrate your ability to utilize these tools using a variety of different formats:

- **Homework:** 6 x 10 points = 60 points
- **Quizzes:** 5 x 10 points = 50 points
- **Statistics Binder:** 1 x 15 points = 15 points
- **Project:** 1 x 25 points = 25 points

**TOTAL = 150 points**

**Homework:** Our class is very hands on. The best way to learn statistics is to DO THEM. During class we will work with PSPP and you will continue to work with PSPPP for your homework assignments. Assignments are each worth 10 points and will be graded on completion, understanding of the material, and accuracy of presentation. Assignments should be typed and submitted as hard copies. Late assignments are not accepted.

A large part of mastering statistics is to keep using them. Almost no one understands statistics the first time through a technique (or even the second or third). To encourage you to keep practicing, you may revise and re-submit each homework assignment once. Resubmissions are due within one week of the homework being returned; for example, if assignment 1 was returned on Monday, Jan. 12th, your revision would be due by Monday, Jan. 19th. Revisions are optional and can only be submitted if you turned in the original assignment. Assignments will be regraded using the same
Criteria and your revised grade will be the average of the original grade and the revision; for example, if the original score on assignment 1 was a 7/10 and the revised assignment 1 was a 10/10, your final score for assignment 1 would be 8.5/10.

**Quizzes:** We have 6 quizzes. Each quiz is worth 10 points and I drop your lowest quiz grade. These quizzes are practical tests of your knowledge and cover basic & applied knowledge of statistical concepts. These quizzes are open-book, open-notes. Similar to the homework assignments, you will use PSPP for the quizzes.

As with the homework, practice makes perfect. With this in mind, you may revise and re-submit each quiz once. Resubmission procedures mirror those used for the homework (resubmissions are due within one week of the quiz being returned and assignments will be regraded using the same criteria and your final grade will be the average of the original grade and the revision).

**Statistics Binder:** Throughout the semester, you will be creating your own stats reference book. All your completed & graded homework, quizzes, class PowerPoints, class notes, and class exercises should be contained in this stats binder. Binders may be either digital or hardcopy (or a combination of part digital, part hardcopy). The binder should be neatly organized by topic. After the semester, this notebook will serve as your very own stats reference book. You will submit your binder towards the end of the semester. It is worth 15 points. After grading, you should retrieve your notebook and (hopefully) use your personalized stats survival guide for future classes.

**Project:** For your final project in this course you will formulate an appropriate research question using approved data, perform descriptive statistics, conduct an appropriate analyses using SPSS, and write up a results section based on your findings in APA style. More information about this project will be handed out later in the semester. It is worth 25 points.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance does not count towards your statistics grade, however homework must be turned in by the day that it is due. If you are absent on that day, you should make alternative arrangements for work to be turned in regardless. The same goes for our quizzes.

### COURSE CONTENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule (tentative and subject to change):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dates</strong></td>
<td><strong>Assignment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Jan. 8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Concepts</td>
<td>Jan. 10th, 17th, 22nd, 24th, &amp; 29th</td>
<td>Read: Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Variables, Measurement, &amp; Frequency</td>
<td><strong>Homework #1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Due Jan. 30th</strong></td>
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<td>No School</td>
<td>Jan. 15th</td>
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<td>Quiz #1</td>
<td>Jan. 31st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleaning &amp; Preparing Data</td>
<td>Jan. 31st (time permitting)</td>
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<td>Project Prep Days</td>
<td>Feb 5th &amp; 7th</td>
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<td>Group, library, and/or at-home work days</td>
<td>Project planning form &amp; one article</td>
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<td><strong>Due: Feb. 12th</strong></td>
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Probability & Central Limit Theorem
Feb. 12th, 14th, 21st, & 26th
Read: Ch. 3, 6, & 7

No School
Feb. 19th

Quiz #2
Feb. 28th

Measures of Association
Cross Tabs, Chi-Square, & Correlations
March 5th, 7th, 12th, & 14th
Read: Ch. 11
Homework #3
Due March 14th

Quiz #3
March 19th

Regression
Linear & Multiple
March 21st, April 2nd, 4th, & 9th
Read: Ch. 12
Homework #4
Due April 9th

Quiz #4
April 11th

Hypothesis Testing
T-Tests
April 16th & 18th
Read: Ch. 9 & 10
Homework #5
Due April 18th

Quiz #5
April 23rd

Hypothesis Testing
ANOVA
April 25th & 30th
Read: Ch. 13
Homework #6
Due April 30th

Quiz #6
April 30th
Charts & Graphs
April 30th

Project Work Day
May 2nd
Binder due May 2nd

Project Fair
May 9th, 11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
Project Due

- Readings should be completed prior to the start of the class period for which they are assigned.
- Homework is due by the end of class on the day that it is due.
- Quizzes will take place after we have completed a general review of the homework on the topic (your specific, submitted homework may not have been returned yet).

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING
Rubrics for each assignment are available on Laulima.

Students often worry about their progress in a course, and sometimes ask their instructors to calculate their grade for them. In this course, my goal for the grading system is to be as clear as possible so that you are always aware of your standing in the course. I have provided this worksheet for you to fill in your assignment grades as the semester progresses.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework # 1</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework # 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Homework # 3 | 10
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Homework # 4 | 10
Homework # 5 | 10
Homework # 6 | 10
Quiz # 1* | 10
Quiz # 2* | 10
Quiz # 3* | 10
Quiz # 4* | 10
Quiz # 5* | 10
Quiz # 6* | 10
Statistics Notebook | 15
Project | 25
**Total:** | /150 |

\[
\text{Total} = \frac{\text{Total Points}}{150} \times 100
\]

*remember to only count your highest 5 quiz grades in your final point total*

**Grading:**
I will use the following scale to determine the final grade that you earned:

- A = 150.0 – 135 points [percentage of 90 – 100%]
- B = 134.9 – 120 points [percentage of 80 – 89.9%]
- C = 119.9 – 105 points [percentage of 70 – 79.9%]
- D = 104.9 – 90 points [percentage of 60 – 69.9%]
- F = Below 90 points [percentage of 0 – 59.9%]

**LEARNING RESOURCES**
Our required materials for the course:

Additional course materials will be available on Laulima.

**Recommended Reading Resources:**


**Campus Resources:**
TRIO: Tutoring and resource center for low-income, first-generation, and/or students with disabilities.
Peer Mentoring: tutoring and mentoring for any student in need of tutoring or educational support (see your campus counselor at Student Services).

Library Study Services: See the librarian for additional details.

EBSCOHost Journal Online Database can be accessed through the Library Website: http://library.wcc.hawaii.edu

Student Resources:
Ka Piko is WCC’s academic support hub. Please visit: https://windward.hawaii.edu/kapiko/

**Additional Information**
I am here to help you succeed in this course. Please don’t hesitate to email me or stop by my office if you have any questions, concerns, or problems. At any point in the semester, if you have concerns about our class that you would prefer not to discuss with me, the Social Sciences department chair, Dr. Frank Palacat (palacatf@hawaii.edu), is available as a resource.

Attendance: Attendance does not count towards your statistics grade, however homework and quizzes must be turned in by the day that they are due. If you are absent on that day, you should make alternative arrangements for work to be turned in regardless. There will be in class lab exercises, but missed lab exercises may be completed at a later date.

Plagiarism/Cheating: I take both plagiarism and cheating very seriously. If I believe you have plagiarized (intentionally or unintentionally) or cheated, you will earn a zero for that assignment, no exceptions. A second instance of either will result in failure of the course (i.e. two instances of plagiarism, two instances of cheating or an instance of plagiarism and an instance of cheating).

Late assignments: Late assignments will not be accepted, excepted in cases of serious documented emergencies. This determination is made by me; please contact me as soon as you anticipate a problem.

Assignment submission: Electronic submissions are at a student’s own risk. If you need to email me an assignment, it is your responsibility to ensure that the proper document was received on time. I will send a confirmation email indicating that the file was received. If the file is late, does not open properly, or was the wrong file, it will not be counted as on-time and you will not receive credit for the assignment.

Course format: Class sessions will involve a combination of student driven lectures, professor driven lectures and in-class activities. Students are expected to complete assigned readings and activities before coming to class. Active participation during class is expected and will provide students with a deeper and more complete understanding of statistical principles. Failure to prepare or participate will not directly impact your grade (i.e. you will not lose points for not participating) but is likely to indirectly impact your grade (i.e. students who participate actively are more likely than non-participants to comprehend the material and therefore do better on the homework and quizzes).
I strongly uphold the University of Hawai‘i’s non-discrimination policy in my class. Any discriminatory acts or language on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, or sexual orientation will NOT be tolerated. We will maintain our classroom as a safe environment for all.

**MySuccess**

At Windward Community College, we want every student to be successful. To help with this, early intervention will be offered through MySuccess. MySuccess is a system wide effort that seeks to support students early in the semester when they first begin experiencing difficulty in class. If I feel that you're having difficulty in our class within the first few weeks of the semester (e.g. missing assignments or low assignment scores) and working together shows that you would really benefit from being connected to supportive resources outside of the classroom, I may refer you to an assigned counselor. Once referred, MySuccess will:

- Call you and send an email to your Hawaii.edu account to let you know about my referral; and
- Have a Counselor follow up with you by phone or by email to find out what kinds of help you might need and connect you with the necessary resources to help you devise a strategy for success.

I will not refer you without telling you. If I do refer you, know that I am doing so in an effort to connect you with all of the help you may need to do well this semester as your success is important to me.

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale ‘Akoakoa 213 for more information.

**Title IX**

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination; sexual harassment and gender-based harassment, including harassment based on actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; sexual assault; sexual exploitation; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking. For more information regarding your rights under Title IX, please visit: [https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/](https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/).

Windward Community College (WCC) is committed to the pursuit of equal education. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination or gender-based violence, WCC has resources to support you. To speak with someone confidentially, contact Karla Silva-Park, Mental Health Counselor, at 808-235-7468 or karlas@hawaii.edu or Kaahu Alo, Designated Confidential Advocate for Students, at 808-235-7354 or kaahualo@hawaii.edu. To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 808-235-7393 or wcctix@hawaii.edu.