

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK  
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY**



**SWRK 344: Social Work Statistics and Data  
Analysis  
(3 credit hours)  
Spring 2024**

Instructor: **Dr. April Murphy**  
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**Office Hours** Online and by appointment  
**Click [HERE](#) to schedule a meeting with me!**

**All Online Course**

**Course Description:**

Prerequisites: MATH 109 or MATH 112 or MATH 115 or MATH 116 or MATH 117 or MATH 123 or MATH 136 or MATH 142 or MATH 183 or CS 146 or PHIL 215

**Required Text:**

Royse, D., Montcalm, D., & Griffiths, A. (2022). *Statistics for social workers: Essential concepts* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Cognella.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of levels of measurement.
2. Demonstrate how to organize data.
3. Describe the importance of diversity and ethical considerations on research questions, sample selection, and analysis.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the selection and utilization of appropriate inferential statistics for hypothesis testing.
5. Display professionalism in interactions with peers and instructor, and via oral and written communication of ideas

**Description of Course Assignments**

***Reading Quizzes – 130 points (13 @ 10pts each)***

There will be 13 reading quizzes over the course of the semester. The reading quizzes will include multiple choice and true/false questions that will assess your understanding of the various statistical concepts. Mastery of the reading quizzes will help your performance on the midterm and final exam. The reading quizzes are administered during specified time periods on Blackboard. They will open on Monday at 8am CST and close on Sunday at 11:59pm CST the week they are due. You may take the reading quiz at any time during the week; however, once you begin the reading quiz, you must finish it within the timeframe given.

**Unit Exam – 200 pts (2 @ 100pts each)**

The two (2) unit exams (i.e., midterm and final exam) contain multiple choice and true/false questions to demonstrate mastery of the various statistical concepts. The exams are administered during specified time periods on Blackboard. They will open on Monday at 8am CST and close on Sunday at 11:59pm CST the week they are due. You may take the exam at any time during the week; however, once you begin the exam, you must finish it within the timeframe given.

**Evaluation & Grading**

Reading Quizzes	130 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
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Total Points	330 points

**Grading Scale:**

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

**Other Details and Performance Expectations**

**Format:** An online lecture format will be used. Students are encouraged to ask questions, seek clarification, and discuss course content with the instructor.

**Texts and Handouts:** The one required text for the course is: *Statistics for Social Workers: Essential Concepts (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)* by Royse, Montcalm, and Griffiths (2022). It is available for purchase at the WKU campus bookstore and online outlets. The e-version is acceptable for use in the course if preferred. This version will be the only acceptable one to use for the course. As well, students will need to have a calculator that can perform basic as well as square root functions. Students may use calculators on the unit tests.

**Technology and Assignments:** This class is conducted entirely online. Consequently, students will need to be self-motivated and be able to work well independently in completing all course readings, assignments, and other activities. Students watch regular video lectures from the professor, to enhance the didactic aspect of the course. Students must watch all of these video lectures in order to pass the course and receive the maximum grade for participation. Due to the cumulative nature of statistics, watching lectures is absolutely necessary to pass the course.

It is the responsibility of the student to secure the proper computer equipment and technology to access the Blackboard site for this all online course. All technological problems and issues should be addressed to the IT HelpDesk (745-7000) first before consulting the professor. Technological problems will not a legitimate excuse for work submitted late.

Students will be required to view online lectures on their home computers recorded using Zoom. Students will also take both exams in the course online so a reliable connection is required.

Any make-up exams will be for EMERGENCY reasons only and it is the discretion of the professor as to what constitutes an emergency. The professor will only reset an online exam when a technological problem is documented and verifiable-no exceptions!

**The two exams** will be administered online, timed, and will be open book/open notes. **Students are not to consult each other while taking these exams, nor are they to talk with each other about the exam until after the exam period is over. This policy will be enforced with zero tolerance.**

The professor will provide the students more detail on how to access the online exams closer to the time of their administration. Exams will be based on readings, lectures, and statistical problems worked. The second exam will not be cumulative. The format for the exams will be multiple choice and true/false. Statistics problems and all responses will be typed on the computer screen (students will need to provide evidence on the screen that they have worked through the steps of the various statistical problems).

The normal sequence for approaching each date on the syllabus will be to read the chapter(s) by the assigned dates, watch the assigned video lectures, and work supplemental problems assigned for each chapter (in addition to the ones in the text).

**Plagiarism:** All work turned in must be your own. Cheating will not be tolerated under any circumstances and will result in expulsion from the class and a grade of zero.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Room 101, Garrett Conference Center. The OFSDS telephone number is 270-745-5004 V/TDD. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services. I am committed to honoring accommodations, as long as I am notified about them in a timely manner (e.g., ideally before the end of the first week of class).

**Office Hours:** You can contact me at any time via email at [april.murphy@wku.edu](mailto:april.murphy@wku.edu) and I will promptly respond to your queries. You can also access me via phone at (270) 745-8935. I will also be available for individual appointments if needed.

**Other:** The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed with reasonable notice and accommodations for the students.

### **Academic Support**

Most of us find that we need some academic support and direction during our time in the university. WKU offers many resources that can help you be successful in this course. These are listed below.

#### STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCE CENTER

In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the [Student Accessibility Resource Center \(SARC\)](https://www.wku.edu/sarc/) (<https://www.wku.edu/sarc/>) located in the Student Success Center in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The contact telephone number is 270-745-5004 or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from SARC.

#### WRITING CENTER ASSISTANCE

The Writing Center is located in Cherry Hall 123 on the Bowling Green campus and also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during our operating hours. Writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can help you brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper for you. See instructions on the web site of [The Writing Center](#) for making online or face-to-face appointments. Or call 270-745- 5719 during our operating hours (also listed on the website) for help scheduling an appointment.

#### LEARNING ASSISTANCE AT WKU [The Learning Center](#) 270-745-6254

Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing

Student Union, A330) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. TLC @ Downing Student Union and TLC @ FAC offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and offers a thirty- two machine Dell computer lab to complete academic coursework. Additionally, TLC has four satellite locations. Each satellite location is a quiet study center and is equipped with a small computer lab. These satellite locations are located in FAC, Douglas Keen Hall, McCormack Hall, and Pearce Ford Tower. Please contact TLC @ Downing Student Union for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment.

#### OFF CAMPUS LIBRARY SUPPORT

The Extended Campus Library Services Office will copy citations and pull library books for students at extended campuses and send them through the mail. There is no cost to students (although you do have to pay to return the library books). WKU also has a courier service to extended campuses. For further information, go to: [https://wku.edu/library/dlps/extended\\_campus/index.php](https://wku.edu/library/dlps/extended_campus/index.php). Turn-around time can be anywhere from a few days to two weeks, so plan ahead.