

**PSY2100-002 Statistical Methods / Fall 2020**  
**9:35-**

### **Technology Requirements and Computer Skills Requirements**

**Technical Assistance:** I am not a computer expert. Therefore, if you are having technical problems, please contact the Distance Learning Department at 419-530-8835 or toll free at 866-utoledo (866-886-5336) or by email at [UTDL@utoledo.edu](mailto:UTDL@utoledo.edu). Please contact them when problems arise they want to help.

**Notification of Technical Problems:** If you are having problems with your computer and you are unable to notify me of this event by email, please contact me by phone. My contact numbers are listed on the top of our syllabus. Technical problems with your computer are not a legitimate reason for failing to complete assignments or exams by posted deadlines. There are many computer options available to you, such as the many University of Toledo computer labs and the computers at public libraries. To find out the hours of the University of Toledo computer labs, you can call this number: 419-530-4636. Each student is responsible for finding their own alternative methods or locations to complete assignments by the given deadlines.

**SPSS.** Some coursework will require SPSS (*Statistical Package for Social Sciences*) for statistical data analysis. Students can access SPSS in multiple ways through on-campus resources. For example, SPSS also is available in labs (<https://libguides.utoledo.edu/stats-software/SPSS>), for download (<https://www.utoledo.edu/it/students.html>), and remotely accessible at any time via the academic UT Virtual Lab (<http://www.utoledo.edu/it/VLab/>). General UT technology info is here: <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/required-info-online-learners.html>.

### **Course Requirements**

**Exams.** There will be 3 regular exams during the semester plus 1 final exam. Each of the regular exams is worth 100 points and the final exam is worth 150 points. The exams consist of a c4Ta8q0.00000912 0 6\*nBTF1 11.52 Tf1 0 0 1 107.6g nBm41 0 0 1 107.66 3h612 .00000912 0 612 792 reW

**Homework Assignments.** Homework is essential for success in this course. The assignments will solidify your understanding of course material. There will be 10 homework assignments worth 10 points each. Assignments will be posted on the course website 1 week prior to the listed due date. You will upload and submit homework to Blackboard prior to the start time for class on the due date. If you anticipate missing a homework assignment, notify me via email at least *one week prior* t

emergency on a day that a homework assignment is due, you must notify me *before* class and be prepared to hand in your assignment as soon as is possible. If you did not hand the assignment in on time and did not contact me in advance with your excuse (as noted above), assignments will receive 2.5 points off for each class period handed in late (thus, if handed in after class is over, the assignment will be worth up to 7.5 points; if turned in 1 week late, it would be worth up to 5 points; if handed in 2 weeks late or more, the assignment would be worth 0 points). Note that some (but not all) assignments also have an SPSS (data) file that you are responsible for creating or that we provide for you. See above for links on how to access SPSS.

### **Grading Policy**

You earn points in the class as follows:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
3 Regular Exams - 100 points each	

### **Letter Grades**

A 93+%	C 73-76%	402-423
A- 90-92% 495-511	C- 70-72%	385-401
B+ 87-89% 479-494	D+ 67-69%	369-384
B 83-86% 457-478	D 63-66%	347-368
B- 80-82% 440-456	D- 60-62%	330-346
C+ 77-79% 424-439	F < 60%	329

### **How to Succeed in this Course**

Many students dread this statistics requirement. Many wonder why a statistics class is necessary for psychology majors. Others think back to math courses with considerable anxiety. I want you to know that I am aware that many students are nervous about this class and, above all, I want to help you succeed in this course. Moreover, I will do my best throughout the semester to convince you that it is quite natural for psychology and statistics to exist together.

Mastering the basics of statistics is much like learning a new language – it requires practice, practice, practice. New material builds on older material, and it is essential that you stay up on the class material. Here are some general strategies to consider in the course:

#### **Attend Class**

Attending class is critical for success in this course. In fact, research has shown that one of the best predictors of grades in courses is class attendance, and even the brightest students

gain more insight by attending classes regularly. This is especially important in a class like statistics, as it is helpful to consume information multiple times and in a number of different formats (e.g., reading, lectures). Moreover, there will be some course material presented in class that does not appear in the book; thus, you will need to attend to get all the information covered on exams.

#### Read, Study, and Take Notes Actively

Research shows that many individuals read and write passively, that is, without thinking about the meaning of what they are covering. In reading and studying textbook-type material, everyone (professors included) must read actively and as a result somewhat slowly. Research shows that learning is much more effective if new information is related to old information. Passively writing what is on the overhead screen or what is discussed in class without thinking about it will not help you understand the material.

#### Study the Summaries and Section Headings Before and While You Read

Summaries and headings help you mentally organize what you read. The authors did not just throw a bunch of information together randomly; they present an organized framework of ideas and information. You should seek to discover and understand their organization. Research shows that information is learned best when part of an organized framework.

#### Alter Your Expectations for Studying

Research consistently shows that students greatly underestimate the effort and time it takes to do a quality job of learning the new and complex material that is part of most courses. Academic experts generally agree that for a typical three-credit semester-long course, spending at least 6 hours per week outside of class working on learning is the norm for reasonable achievement.

#### Do the Homework Assignments

In order to facilitate your mastery of basic statistics, I have included homework assignments (in addition to the 4 exams). The purpose of the assignments is two-fold: 1) they allow you more opportunities to earn points in the course, and 2) they will give you critical practice for building your understanding of the material and facilitate use/retention of the information.

#### Keep up with Class Material and Ask Questions

**Tentative Course Schedule**  
**(Subject to change based on in-class announcements)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment/Exam</b>
1	Aug. 18	Introduction: Science and Statistics	Ch. 1	
	Aug. 20	Variables and Measurement		
2	Aug. 25	Data Organization	Ch. 4	Assignment 1 due
	Aug. 27	Data Organization and SPSS		
3	Sept. 1	Central Tendency	Ch. 2	
	Sept. 3	Variability	Ch. 3	Assignment 2 due
4	Sept. 8	Sampling, normal curve, and z-distributions	Ch. 8	
	Sept. 10	Sampling, normal curve, and z-distributions		
5	Sept. 15	Sampling, normal curve, and z-distributions		Assignment 3 due
	Sept. 17	<i>Exam 1</i>		<b>Exam # 1</b> Open

### **Academic Policies**

All students at the University of Toledo must read, understand, and follow the academic policies that govern their attendance at the University. These policies include, but are not limited to, academic dishonesty, academic forgiveness, adding and dropping a course, grades and grading, and the missed class policy. Please use the following URL to read a comprehensive list of academic policies that pertain to you in this class and throughout your time at UT: <http://www.utoledo.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate/>. If you have any questions after reading through the policies, please let me know.

### **Collegiate Policies**

#### **Policy Statement on Non Discrimination on the Basis of Disability (ADA)**

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read [The](#)

Communicating during an examination in any manner with any unauthorized person concerning the examination or any part of it;  
Giving or receiving substantive aid during the course of an examination;  
Starting an examination before the stipulated time or continuing to work on an examination after the announced conclusion of the examination period;  
Taking, converting, concealing, defacing, damaging or destroying any property related to the preparation or completion of assignments, research, or exams;  
Submitting the same written work to fulfill the requirements for more than one course.

### **Other Policies**

Your safety and well-being as a University of Toledo student is important to the faculty, staff, and administration; as such please take time outside of class to review the code of conduct and non-discrimination policies that apply to you as a student:

<https://www.utoledo.edu/title-ix/policies.html>. You can use this URL to view a more comprehensive list of student policies:

<https://www.utoledo.edu/policies/audience.html/#students>.

### **Academic and Support Services**

Please follow this link (<http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/departments.html>) to view a comprehensive list of [Student Academic and Support Services](#) available to you. UT also provides a variety of academic and support services on campus to help you succeed and reach your fullest potential. Whether you need to ask a question, get help with an assignment, seek advice from a counselor, find a job or join a club, UToledo offers some help:

Tutoring: <http://www.utoledo.edu/success/lec/>

Library: <http://www.utoledo.edu/library/>

Success Coaching: <https://www.utoledo.edu/successcoach/>

Student Affairs: <http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/>

Career Services: <http://www.utoledo.edu/success/career/>

### **Safety and Health Services for UT Students**

Please use the following link to view a comprehensive list [Campus Health and Safety Services](#) available to you as a student. It covers services related health, mental health, emergencies, and discrimination, among other things. In addition, UT provides assistance via a Food Pantry: <http://www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/food-pantry/>.

### **Special Course Expectations During COVID-19**

-19 virus things can change at any time so please be patience and understanding as we move through the semester. I also ask that you keep me informed of concerns you may have about class, completing course work/assignments timely, and/or health concerns related to COVID.