COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography

Office Hours: Monday   1:30 – 3:00 PM
Thursday 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Office Location: Turpin B352

Contact: (250) 721-7337   msf@uvic.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

From satellites continuously orbiting the globe, sensors placed on the ocean floor, social network sites like Facebook, from teams of students coring trees or conducting interviews in First Nations communities, data are being collected everywhere and all the time. While computers allow us to store massive amounts of data, statistical methods are essential to the process of extracting useful information. If your passion is the environment, statistics help us to understand the impacts of climate change on oceans, plant and animal ranges, and human health. If your passion is in public policy, statistics help to inform governments and non-governmental organizations about the effectiveness of government programmes such as poverty alleviation, community recycling, and opioid addiction reduction. In order to sort through and correctly interpret the wealth of data that are available, however, you need to understand the strengths and weaknesses of different statistical analysis tools

COURSE GOAL

The main objectives of this course are to provide you with the skills for:

Organizing and describing data in an informative way;
Drawing inferences and constructing convincing arguments based on data analysis;
Evaluating arguments based on data analysis that appear in the geographic literature as well as the media.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

An ability to choose and apply appropriate statistical tests based on their underlying assumptions and limitations.
An ability to interpret, summarize and report the results from different statistical analyses.
Greater appreciation of statistics as tool for scientific research.

data sets and other course materials can be downloaded. NOTE: These materials are intended as supplements to the lectures. They are not intended to replace the lectures.

Username: your UVic Netlink-ID
Password: your UVic Netlink-ID password
Laboratory operating hours can be found at http://www.sfg.uvic.ca/hours.php

The weekly calendar is available on Coursespaces

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Lab assignments are due at the beginning of the following lab. Penalty for assignments handed in more than 24 hours late is **10%** of the value of the assignment. Assignments that are one week late will not be graded. Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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including policies on **cheating, plagiarism**, **unauthorized use of an editor**, **multiple submission**, and **aiding others to cheat**.

Policy on Academic Integrity: web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html

If you have any questions or doubts, talk to me, your course instructor. For more information, see uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php