

SYLLABUS

ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS

FALL 2013

MORAVIAN COLLEGE

DR. D. WETCHER-HENDRICKS

CONTACTING THE PROFESSOR

office: PPHAC 314
office hours: Tuesday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
phone: 610-861-1415
e-mail: medwh02@moravian.edu

REQUIRED READINGS

AVAILABLE FROM THE MORAVIAN COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

Wetcher-Hendricks, D. (2011). *Analyzing Quantitative Data: An Introduction for Social Researchers*. Wiley & Sons.

AVAILABLE ONLINE

Wetcher-Hendricks, D. (2011). "Instruction," *Analyzing Quantitative Data: An Introduction for Social Researchers Companion Website*. Wiley & Sons. www.moravian.edu/aqd

VARIOUS ADDITIONAL INTERNET READINGS AND HANDOUTS AS ASSIGNED IN CLASS




COURSE OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students should have gained the following.

1. familiarity with the tools of data collection, organization and analysis, specifically using the SPSS computer program
2. skills for interpreting raw data, including recognition of appropriate basic statistical processes used for analysis.
3. the ability to draw conclusions that are useful to those involved in the social sciences and related careers.
4. proficiency in presenting and explaining research findings in both written and oral forms
5. competence in objectively assessing the appropriateness of a research project, identifying any shortcomings and possible improvements

Evaluation



Throughout the semester, students complete four quizzes, four laboratory exercises, and a semester project.


The quizzes consist of short-answer questions based upon recently-covered material. Quizzes are given at the beginning of class on scheduled dates.

For each laboratory exercise, students apply data-analysis techniques in a work session at the end of class on the scheduled dates. Students may work cooperatively during the lab, but each must submit his or her own completed lab sheet and relevant output.

The semester project requires the organization of data and basic statistical analysis using SPSS software. Students must submit two written reports. The first is due about midway through the semester. The second, along with a revised first report, is due in a portfolio during final exam week. Detailed descriptions of these reports can be found in "Course Project Guidelines."

Although attendance, itself, does not directly affect students' grades in this course, each student receives a class participation grade. IT IS NECESSARY TO ATTEND CLASS TO RECEIVE CLASS PARTICIPATION CREDIT. Contributions to class discussions and activities increase students' participation grades. Obvious inactivity (including sleeping), disruptions (such as consistently arriving late to class), or lack of effort lowers the grade.

The preceding factors are combined in the following manner to determine students' course grades.



LABS	24% (6% each)
QUIZZES	24% (6% each)
PROJECT PHASE 1	18%
PROJECT PHASE 2/PORTFOLIO	24%
CLASS PARTICIPATION	10%

The numerical ranges used in assigning each letter grade in this course are as follows.

A 92%-100%	B 82%-87.9%	C 72%-77.9%	D 62%-67.9%
A- 90%-91.9%	B- 80%-81.9%	C- 70%-71.9%	D- 60%-61.9%
B+ 88%-89.9%	C+ 78%-79.9%	D+ 68%-69.9%	F 0%-59.9%

Please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook for description of the requirements for attaining each grade.

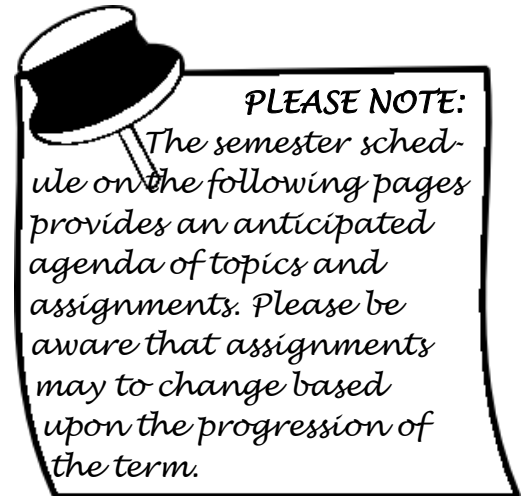
policies

All standards listed in the college catalog that deal with attendance, withdrawal, cheating, plagiarism, and any other pertinent policies apply to this class.

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain information and distributed materials from any class that he or she misses. Please make every possible effort to attend class on the dates for which quizzes and labs are scheduled. All missed quizzes and labs are given at the end of the semester. Project reports must be submitted on time to receive full credit. Late


reports are accepted with a five point penalty for each overdue day (including weekends and holidays), beginning with the due date.


Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center. Also, the Writing Center is located in a building that is not accessible to persons with mobility impairments. Those who need the services of the Writing Center should call 610-861-1392.



COURSE SCHEDULE

This calendar provides an anticipated schedule of topics and assignments. Please be aware that it may change based upon the progression of the term.

assignment for this week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Buy the books Skim Chapter 1	8/26	8/27 introductions	8/28	8/29 data manipulation	8/30
Skim Chapter 1 SPSS Instruction Read Chapter 2	9/2  LABOR DAY	9/3 data manipulation	9/4	9/5 descriptive analysis	9/6
Skim Chapter 2 SPSS Instruction Read Sections 3.1–3.4	9/9	9/10 descriptive analysis	9/11	9/12 LAB 1 descriptive analysis	9/13
Skim Chapter 3 SPSS Instruction Read correlation handout	9/16	9/17 descriptive analysis	9/18	9/19 QUIZ 1 correlation and regression	9/20
Read Sections 8.1 and 8.2 Skim Chapter 8 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts)	9/23	9/24 correlation and regression	9/25	9/26 correlation and regression	9/27
Read Sections 8.3.1, 8.3.2, and 8.5 Skim Chapter 8 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts) Read Section 4.1	9/30	10/1 LAB 2 correlation and regression	10/2	10/3 QUIZ 2 statistical significance	10/4
Study for Quiz Read Sections 4.3 – end of chapter	10/7	10/9 FALL BREAK	10 /9	10/10 PHASE 1 REPORT DUE statistical significance	10/11
Read Chapter 5 except 5.2 Skim Chapter 5 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts)	10/21	10/22 chi-square tests	10/23	10/24 LAB 3 chi-square tests	10/25

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Study for Exam Read Sections 6.1 and 6.3 Skim Chapter 6 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts)	10/28	10/29 t-tests QUIZ 3	10/30	10/31 t-tests	11/1
Read Sections 6.5 – end of chapter Skim Chapter 6 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts) Read Sections 7.1, 7.3.1, 7.4.1	11/4	11/5 t-tests	11/6	11/7 ANOVAS	11/8
Read Sections 7.3.3, 7.4.2, 7.6 – end of chapter Skim Chapter 7 SPSS Instruction (relevant parts)	11/11	11/12 ANOVAS	11/13	11/14 ANOVAS LAB 4	11/15
Read Sections 11.1, 11.3 – end of chapter	11/18	11/19 workshop QUIZ 4	11/20	11/14 writing research reports	11/22
	11/25	11/26	11/27	11/28 	11/29
Perform analyses for Phase 2 report Begin writing Phase 2 report	12/2	12/3 workshop	12/4	12/5 workshop/makeups	12/6
Write Phase 2 report. Revise Phase 1 report.	12/9	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13