

SYLLABUS

# ADVANCED SOCIAL RESEARCH

FALL 2014  
HENDRICKS

MORAVIAN COLLEGE  
hendricksd@moravian.edu

DR. DEBRA WETCHER-

e-mail:wetcher-

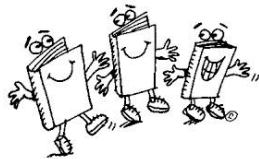
phone: 610-861-1415

office:PPHAC 314

hours: Monday 9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Thursday 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

CONTACTING  
THE



## REQUIRED COURSE 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](http://www.moravian.edu/aqd)

Distributed in class:

various additional readings and handouts as assigned

## 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**

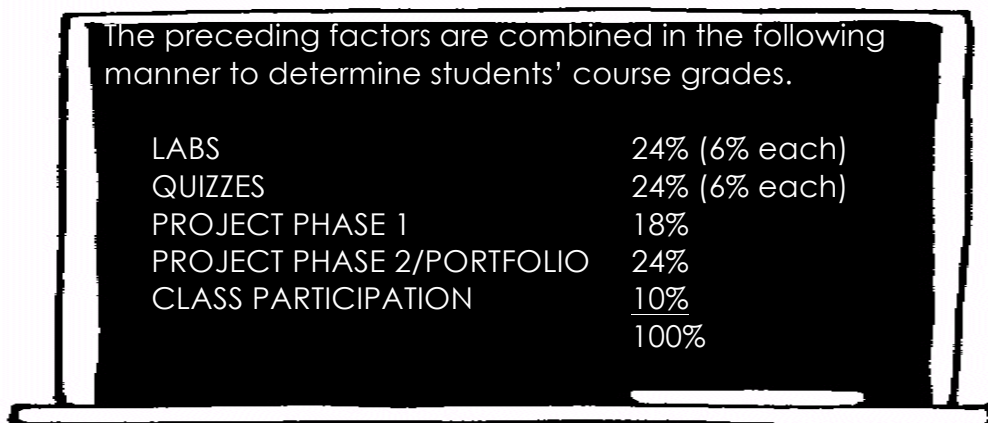
Throughout the semester, students complete four quizzes, four laboratory exercises, and a semester project.

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. Labs are due at the BEGINNING of the classes after which they were distributed. Students may work cooperatively on the labs, 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	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Course grades follow the letter-grade system. Please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook for a description of the level of work characteristic of each grade. The numerical ranges used in assigning each letter grade in this course are as follows. Please consult the Moravian College Student Handbook for description of the requirements to attain each grade.



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

## **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 academic and disability support located on the first floor of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. 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.



### **PLEASE NOTE:**

The semester schedule provides an anticipated agenda of topics and assignments. Please be aware that assignments may change based upon the progression of the term.