

STA 145: Applied Statistical Inference for Social Scientists
Spring 2024

To begin, I would like to acknowledge that [the land on which we usually gather](#) is the territory of the Lenapehoking (Lenni-Lenape) Peoples, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We thank them for their strength and resilience in protecting this land and aspire to uphold our responsibilities according to their example.

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Office Hours:

Walk in / no appointment necessary
M/Th 2:00-3:30
Zoom by appointment
[Book a Zoom Appointment](#)
[Zoom Meeting Room](#)

Please email me if these times do not work for you!

How Should I Contact You?

Email is preferred over Canvas messages. I will occasionally, and only for limited times, be available via Google Chat. **Please use your TCNJ email.**

When will you respond?

I will respond to emails within 2 work days (e.g., not over the weekend or over night). If I don't respond within 2 days, please email again

What are "Office Hours"? Office hours are designated times for you to connect with me outside of class. These sessions provide a supportive and collaborative environment where you can ask questions, seek clarification, and receive additional help with the course material.

Are office hours only about the class?

Office hours are also a great space to get advice or problem solve issues surrounding college and careers more generally. I encourage you to attend office hours frequently (mine and your other professors!). Stop by and say hi!!

I especially welcome discussion around how you can use data science and [statistics](#) to advance your other goals!

"Facts are stubborn things, but statistics are pliable."

Mark

Twain "A single death is a tragedy; a million deaths is a statistic."

Joseph

Stalin "The function of sociology, as of every science, is to reveal that which is hidden."

Pierre Bourdieu

"Social statisticians have forgotten (or perhaps some have never realized) that the social concept of race affects how we interpret racial statistics."

Takufu
Zuberi “All [statistics] are wrong, but some are useful.”

George E. P. Box

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Quizzes (10 points)

There will be a quiz due the morning of most classes (before class). These quizzes are designed to make you engage with the material and come to class prepared to engage more deeply. The quizzes may cover the main text, class site readings, videos, lectures, and discussions. The quizzes are open note, and collaboration – not “can you send me the answers?” – is encouraged.

Each quiz will have 10 questions and be worth ten points. There is no time limit, and you will have unlimited attempts. We will cover the content from the quiz in class, so **there will be no extensions or exemptions**. You should prioritize completing the quizzes and plan a significant chunk of time on a consistent basis towards that end. It is likely that getting a 10/10 on some quizzes will require a significant time investment. Completing quizzes in the morning before class is highly discouraged.

Activities (10 points)

There will be many guided activities throughout the semester. These activities are largely graded as pass/fail (i.e., 100% or 0%). Activities will generally be started in class, and you will frequently be able to complete the activities during class time. If you miss class, you are responsible for completing the activities on your own time.

Exams (30 points; 10 per module)

There will be three exams (10 points each). Instructions, study guides, and practice exams will be available on Canvas.

Assignments (20 points)

There will be an assignment due on most Thursdays. These assignments may be independent of or relation to your class project (i.e., final paper check points).

Final paper (30 points)

The final paper instructions can be found on Canvas.

Grading Scale

94-100% = A
 90-93.99% = A- 88-89.99%
 = B+
 84-87.99% = B
 80-83.99% = B- 78-79.99%
 = C+
 74-77.99% = C
 70-73.99% = C- 68-69.99%
 = D+
 60-67.99% = D
 < 60% = F

| Assessment | Percent of Grade |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Quizzes | |
| Module 1 Descriptive Statistics | 3 |
| Module 2 Sampling and Design | 3 |
| Module 3 Bivariate Statistics | 4 |
| Quizzes Total | 10 |
| Activities | |
| Module 1 Descriptive Statistics | 3 |
| Module 2 Sampling and Design | 3 |
| Module 3 Bivariate Statistics | 4 |
| Activities Total | 10 |
| Exams | |
| Module 1 Descriptive Statistics | 10 |
| Module 2 Sampling and Design | 10 |
| Module 3 Bivariate Statistics | 10 |
| Exam Total | 30 |
| Assignments | 20 |
| Final Paper | 30 |
| Total | 100 |

