

Psychology 3830F – Computers and Research in Psychology
Section 550
Fall 2021

1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

1.1 Course Number: Psychology 3830F

1.2 Course Name: Computers and Research in Psychology

1.3 Class Time: Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm, Fridays 11:30am-12:30pm, Huron Computer Lab

1.4 Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Hessels (she/her)

Office: V104

Contact Info: Contact me through email anytime: shessel@uwo.ca (please include the class course number in the Subject line).

If at all possible, responses will be returned within 24 hours (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Zoom meetings can be scheduled upon request.

Office hours: Wednesdays 12:30-1:30pm. Please email ahead of time if you plan to attend.

Course website: <http://owl.uwo.ca> {login & password = UWO login ID and password}

2.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Topics include: fundamentals of operating microcomputers, use of statistical packages (e.g., SPSS), interpretation of computer output from univariate and multivariate statistical analyses.

Antirequisite(s): Psychology 3800F/G or the former Psychology 381E.

Prerequisite(s): Psychology 2830A and registration in an Honours Specialization or Major in Psychology or permission of the Department.

3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- describe the rationale underlying statistical procedures
- choose appropriate statistical tests for data sets
- perform basic descriptive and inferential statistical procedures using computer software

- design and conduct an empirical research study

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

This course has two components:

- (1) lectures are designed to help students understand the rationale behind statistical procedures
- (2) hands-on computer analysis will provide practice in the application of knowledge of statistical procedures

5.0 THE WEEKLY PLAN

Each Thursday, lecture videos will be posted on Owl for the scheduled topic ahead. Videos will cover rationale for each statistical analysis, along with example problems. You will be expected to watch the videos and complete the corresponding textbook reading.

During class time on Wednesdays (starting at 10:30am), we will meet in person in the Huron Computer Lab.

There will usually be an in-class assignment related to the topic of the week.

Please see the Topic Schedule below for all relevant dates. In-class assignment weeks are indicated by *.

Wednesday class sessions may also be used to discuss the Lab Project (see Topic Schedule below).

Friday class sessions will be considered office hours. You are welcome to attend (in the Computer Lab) with questions.

6.0 REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCES

Yockey, R.D. (2018). *SPSS Demystified, Third Edition*. Routledge.

A physical version of the textbook can be purchased at the Western Book Store.

Alternatively, there is an etext version available for purchase here:

<https://lb.ca/cgi-bin/cgiwrap/additem.bbx?/Z109991/I9781351976350>

SPSS: A license for SPSS software (Version 27) can be purchased for \$55, plus tax. The software will be valid until May 2022.

Email Mike Assaf at the Campus Computer Store, massaf@uwo.ca. You will be sent online payment instructions along with the license code and download link to the software.

7.0 EVALUATION

1. In-Class Assignments (27% total)
2. Midterm (18%): October 20
3. Lab Report (25%): Paper due December 8.
4. Final Exam (30%): The (cumulative) final exam will take place during the December exam period.

All components will be completed by each individual student, using SPSS, without collaboration with anyone else.

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

There will be 9 short in-class assignments (worth 3% each). There will be an assignment every week with a * in the Schedule (Section 10.0) below.

Assignments will involve the analysis of data using SPSS. They may also involve summarizing the material, generating questions, critical thought exercises, etc. Details for all will be made available in class.

Assignments will be due by the end of Wednesday's class time.

To complete the assignment, you will be required to attend class. If you cannot attend class for a *valid reason* (see Section 9.0 below), you must contact Dr. Hessels *prior to class time* and permission *may* be granted to complete the assignment in absentia.

LAB REPORT

The Lab Report will require individualized analysis of a data set and will be written up in an APA-style report. All details will be made available on October 6.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAM

Tests will be composed of short answer questions. Some questions will test your understanding of theory/rationale for analyses and some will involve statistical analysis and APA-style written descriptions of analysis.

The cumulative final exam will cover all topics.

Further details will be provided ahead of time.

8.0 Statement Regarding Grades in Psychology at Huron University College

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 75-79 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 3000-level Psychology course. Grades in the A (80-90%) range will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the third or fourth-year standard associated with the Major or Minor modules. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded rarely and only for work that is exceptional.

9.0 Late Penalties, Extensions, and Make-up Tests

Accommodation will be granted only for medical, religious, or compassionate reasons. All in-class assignments are to be submitted by the end of class time. Submission after this time will be considered late. The penalty for lateness is 10% of the grade per day late (including weekends) up to 7 days late, after which the grade will be zero. Any extensions for legitimate reasons should be requested *before* the due date, and appropriate documentation submitted in a timely fashion. If accommodation is granted, an extension will be given at the discretion of the instructor.

If a test is missed for a legitimate reason (on medical, religious, or compassionate grounds), appropriate documentation must be submitted to Academic Counselling in a timely fashion. As well, please notify Dr. Hessels as soon as possible.

If accommodation is granted, a makeup exam will be scheduled.

Note that accommodation will not be granted in order to accommodate work in other courses or to facilitate travel arrangements (other than on compassionate grounds).

10.0 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

*Indicates that there will be an in-class assignment that week.

Class time	Topic	Reference
September 8	Introduction	Ch. 1
*September 15	Descriptive & Graphs, Reliability	Ch. 2, 3, 4
*September 22	One-sample t-tests, Review of Parametric Statistics	Ch. 5, Unit II Intro
*September 29	Independent-samples t Tests, Paired-samples t Tests	Ch. 6, 7
October 6	LAB REPORT PREPARATION	
*October 13	One-way Between-subjects ANOVAs, Two-way Between-subjects ANOVAs	Ch. 8, 9
October 20	MIDTERM	
*October 27	One-way Within-subjects ANOVAs	Ch. 10
November 3	FALL BREAK	
*November 10	Two-way Mixed ANOVAs	Ch. 11
*November 17	Correlation, Simple Regression	Ch. 12, 13
*November 24	Multiple Regression	Ch.14
*December 1	Nonparametric Tests	Ch. 15, 16
December 8	Review	

FINAL EXAMS December 10 – December 21, 2021

Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.