

Stats lab

Week 1

Write this down!

- ▶ Meetings:
- ▶ Instructor:
- ▶ Office:
- ▶ Phone:
- ▶ email:
- ▶ Office Hr.:

- ▶ Yockey, R.D. (2008). *SPSS demystified: A step-by-step guide to successful data analysis*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Lab structure

- ▶ Lab supplements the class and the work
- ▶ You must pass the writing portion of the class to pass the course!!

- ▶ You will complete a project as a scientist by
 - Developing a research idea and variables
 - The data you collect will form the basis for the projects that you complete for the rest of the semester.
 - You will learn to conduct relevant statistical tests by hand and in SPSS
 - and will learn to make appropriate inferences from the results and to report the results to others.

Attendance

- ▶ Things move quickly in the lab
- ▶ Attendance and reading before class will help you keep up
- ▶ Ask questions!!! Staying engaged will help you learn
- ▶ If you miss a class, contact another student for the missed information
 - Be prepared - get another student's info
 - I will not re-lecture or hold specific make up sessions
 - Your grade on the group project may be affected (other students will rate your contributions)

Writing

- ▶ Writing assignments are mandatory!
- ▶ Assigned and due in lab
- ▶ Much of the work required for the assignments will be done in groups in lab
- ▶ BUT everyone must turn in their own assignment that they completed independently - plagiarism is not permitted.
- ▶ Must be typed, APA style, stapled
- ▶ Must have your output attached!!

- ▶ Grades: ability to analyze data, report findings, AND quality of writing
- ▶ 10% deducted each day late

Group assignments

- ▶ Get contact info!!

Pick a topic

- ▶ Pick something relatively broad that's interesting and can be reported or observed
- ▶ Must not be likely to result in physical or psychological harm to anyone (including you)

Pick outcomes

- ▶ Will you observe or have people complete questions?
- ▶ Who will you observe/ question?
- ▶ Pick 3–5 outcome measures
 - Be specific about what you will observe or ask
 - Must be continuous – interval data (or ordinal scale that we'll treat as interval) or ratio data

Pick predictors

- ▶ Things you think will change scores on your outcome measures
- ▶ You need to have:
 - Two-group category that should result in different scores on the outcome measures
 - A categorical predictor with 3 or more categories/groups
 - One continuous predictor that theoretically or methodologically comes before the outcome measure
- ▶ You can have:
 - continuous measures that may relate to the outcome but don't necessarily precede it
- ▶ Also: get gender and age

Now go collect the data!

- ▶ Collect your data from 20–25 people.
- ▶ Can do this as a group or everybody can do 4–5

- ▶ Make sure that everybody is going to ask the same questions or observe the same things

Bring this data to the next lab!!!!