# PSY 210
## Introduction to Statistical Methods
### Sections 1005, 1006, and 1007 (All sections are hybrid)
### Dr. Kimberly A. Barchard
### Fall 2015
### Syllabus

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## Printable Syllabus (avail Sept...)

### Personal Trainer
PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Course Overview

By the end of this course, you will be able to

- Draw and interpret graphs of single variables and pairs of variables
- Explain, calculate, and interpret statistics that describe the central tendency and variability of a distribution
- Test hypotheses about means and relationships between variables
- Provide eyeball estimates of statistics of all statistics before computations are performed
- Recognize and interpret statistical results that are discussed in the media and in your other classes

This course requires some work on the computer and some work in class on campus. This course is delivered in hybrid mode to take advantage of the best features of both formats.

- Each week, by Monday night, you will watch a series of lectlets on your computer, and read the associated chapter in the text. For each chapter, you will also complete a lab and lab quiz on the computer.
- During class time on Tuesdays, you will complete a short reading check and then actively participate in class and complete hand calculations using a hand-held calculator.
- During class time on Thursdays, you will complete assignments to learn how to use the computer to do statistical analyses.
- Every three weeks, you will complete an exam. The exam will have both in-class and take-home portions.

Advantages of a hybrid format:

- Completing lectlets and labs at home allows students to move through the material at their own pace and repeat sections as needed.
• Taking WebCampus quizzes for each chapter allows students to check their understanding at every step and receive immediate individualized feedback.
• Face-to-face classes allow students to ask questions about material from the lectlets and labs and to get help with their hand calculations.
• Face-to-face lab meetings also allow students to work together on assignments. Working together makes the assignments easier, faster, and less stressful. This increases students’ motivation and course grades.
• Completing assignments during class time eliminates the problem of scheduling meetings outside of class time.

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Weekly Timeline

Each week, you will complete the materials for a new chapter.

Preparing for Class on Tuesday

• Watch the lectlets.
• Complete the lab and the lab quiz by Monday at midnight.
• Read the chapter.

During Class on Tuesday

• Attend and actively participate in class.
• Complete a short reading check that tests your knowledge of the material in that week's chapter.
• Class time will include hand calculations and other activities to build your understanding of the concepts.

During Class on Thursday

• Complete an assignment and/or homework. You can hand them in immediately or anytime before the next Wednesday at midnight.
• Every four weeks, you will complete an exam on Thursday.

After Class on Thursday

• Re-do the lab quiz by the next Monday at midnight. If necessary, review the lab beforehand.
- Sometimes, there will be an additional homework that needs to be done before next Wednesday at midnight.
- Start work on the next chapter.

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**Lectlets**

The course lectures are delivered as audio streams across the Internet. Thus these lectures are asynchronous -- available any place and any time you have access to the Internet.

Many people prefer lectlets to face-to-face lectures, because they are:

- **Short**: Specifically targeted at one topic.
- **Always ready**: You can hear the lecture at your convenience. You can hear the lecture at any hour of any day, so you can catch up if you get sick or you can work ahead.
- **Repeatable**: You can listen again if you desire.
- **Controllable**: If an interruption occurs or you lose concentration, you can pause and/or rewind (try that in a classroom lecture!).
- **Helpful for people with special needs**: Volume can be individually adjusted by the hearing impaired; rate of presentation can be controlled by those for whom language is difficult; repetition is easy for those with attention difficulties; and so on.

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**Class Time**

Since lectlets and labs are done on the computer, you may be wondering how we will spend our time in class.

On **Tuesdays**, you will attend class in a regular classroom. Each class will begin with a short Reading Check to test your knowledge of the material covered in this week's chapter. After that, class time will be spent on hand calculations, practicing eyeball estimation, and other activities that will build your understanding of the material and your ability to apply it to new circumstances.

On **Thursdays**, you will work on assignments in a computer lab: CBC B135. During these assignments, you will work in groups of 2-3 students to analyze data using **SPSS**, which is the
most commonly used statistics program in the social sciences. These assignments will culminate in the creation of a research report and a conference poster.

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Readings

Each week, you will read a chapter from the text.

Required textbook:

- **You must use the fifth edition;** previous editions will not provide access to *Personal Trainer* website.
- You may use either the printed copy (available from the bookstore) or the ebook, which is available at [http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtebook](http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtebook) (you may install an ebook on two computers and two hand-held devices; access disappears after six months).
- Both the printed copy (for the original purchaser) and the ebook include access to the *Personal Trainer* website. If you purchase a used printed copy of the textbook, you will have to purchase access to the *Personal Trainer* website from Kendall Hunt ([http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtwebsiteonly/](http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtwebsiteonly/)).
- The author worked hard to make the textbook error free, but occasionally errors do occur. All known errors are listed in the errata. You should fix those errors now, so they don't confuse you later.

- You should have the textbook before the first day of classes.
- A copy of the textbook is on reserve in the library. It is listed under the course number, Psy 210.

- I recommend you complete at least half of the problem exercises at the end of each chapter. You may want to complete all of the even-numbered questions.

Recommended:

- Koch, P. C. (2006). *Study guide for Hurlburt's Comprehending Behavioral Statistics* (4th ed.). Belmont, California: Wadsworth. This study guide is optional but is highly recommended by previous students. It provides a guided review of each chapter and additional worked examples. This study guide may be purchased from the bookstore, or you can buy or rent it through Amazon.
  - Note that this is the study guide for the 4th edition of the textbook, but we'll be using the 5th edition of the textbook. There is no study guide for the 5th edition of
the textbook yet, but the study guide for the 4th edition will still be very useful to you. Moreover, you can buy used copies of this study guide for very little.

  
  - I highly recommend this inexpensive, short book. It provides study strategies that will save you time and improve your grades. I wish I had had this book when I was a student.

**Taking Notes:**

- When students attend a face-to-face lecture, they know they need to take notes. If they don't, they might not remember what the instructor said. But taking notes is just as important when you are watching a lectlet or reading your textbook. Some students might think that they don't need to take notes, because they know they can return to these materials later. However, taking notes is an essential part of understanding and remembering the material and provides you with a concise summary of the important points. Taking notes makes it easier and faster to learn the material and study for exams.

- Many sources recommend the Cornell note-taking method. In this method, you take notes during class, review your notes as soon as possible after class to identify main ideas, and then write a summary of your learning at the bottom of each page of notes. I strongly recommend you use the Cornell method when completing the lectlets and labs on the computer and in class on Tuesdays.

- The following websites explain the Cornell note-taking method:
  - [What your note page should look like](#)
  - [How to use your notes](#)
  - [Automatic page generator](#)

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**Homework**

**There are two types of homework in this course:**

**Group Assignments**

- You will complete a series of assignments that teach you how to use SPSS, the most commonly used statistics software in the social sciences.

- You will work on these assignments during class time on Thursdays.

- These Thursday classes will be held in CBC B135.
• Most students will be able to complete these assignments during class time. However, in case you need to work on the assignments outside of class time, the assignments won't be due until Wednesday at midnight.
• You may work on these assignments individually or in groups of 2-3 students.

Individual Homeworks

• Throughout the semester, there will be a few additional homeworks.
• Some of these homeworks will be completed during class time on Thursdays. Other homeworks will be done outside of class time.
• These homeworks cover a variety of topics.
  o Most of these homeworks focus on helping you achieve your personal educational and career objectives.
  o Some homeworks ask for feedback on the course itself
• What distinguishes these homeworks from the assignments is that the homeworks must be completed individually.

Submitting Your Homework

• Assignments and homeworks must be handed in on WebCampus. They may not be submitted in any other way. For example, they may not be submitted by email, in class, or by being left in someone's mailbox.
• Assignments and homeworks may be handed in on any date before they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted.
• Assignments and homeworks must be submitted by each student. Individual homeworks will, of course, be submitted by each student. But group assignments must also be submitted by each student - this way, we have something we can grade in WebCampus. Usually when you do an assignment in a group, you will be sharing a computer.
  o Complete the assignment in a group. Save it to your personal X or Y drives. Then print it in pdf format. Save the pdf version to your personal X or Y drives.
  o If multiple people worked on the assignment, email ALL of the assignment files to the other team members. Be sure to send the original SPSS or docx file as well as the pdf file.
  o Each person then individually logs into WebCampus to submit the pdf versions of the files.

Grading

• Assignments and homeworks will be graded based upon the quality of your work.
• Assignments and homeworks will usually be graded within one week of the due date.
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Labs and Lab Quizzes

Each week, you will complete a lab and a lab quiz on the computer, outside of class. The labs and lab quizzes will help you understand the theoretical basis for the statistics we calculate (what they mean), and also their practical application (how to calculate and use them).

The lab assignments will be available as web pages on the Personal Trainer website that comes free with your textbook. You can complete the labs as many times as you want, in order to fully learn the material. These labs use two unique and powerful tools. The first unique tool is eyeball estimation, in which you make an educated guess about the value of a statistic. Eyeball estimates will help you gain an intuitive grasp of what each statistic measures, and provide a valuable gut-level check on calculations. The second unique tool is DataGen, a program that calculates most of the statistics that are covered in this course, and which is very easy to use. After you type in the data, DataGen immediately calculates every statistic you might be interested in. All you have to do is locate the number you want. DataGen is valuable because it will allow you to gain an intuitive understanding of the statistics, by changing the data just a bit and seeing what effect this has on the statistics.

The lab quizzes will be available on WebCampus. To access the lab quizzes, click on the Assessments tab on the left hand side. You will have two opportunities to take each quiz. You must complete the lab and the lab quiz by Monday at midnight, so that you are prepared for class on Tuesday. On Tuesday and Thursday, class activities and lab assignments will help you understand and apply the material from that chapter. Finally, you will re-take the quiz by the next Monday at midnight. Note: Even if you got 100% on the quiz the first time you did it, we strongly recommend you take the quiz a second time, because it will give you extra practice and will improve your exam grades. We will use the higher of your two quiz scores when calculating your course grade.

Please note that the Personal Trainer provides practice quizzes to help you learn the material in the textbook. I encourage you to complete those quizzes. However, those practice quizzes are not graded and are NOT the lab quizzes. The lab quizzes are the ones that are available through WebCampus, on the Assessments tab.

See the resources for information about materials you can use to help you during quizzes.
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Exams

The exams for this course will be completed in class on Thursdays. The dates for the exams are given [here](#) and on the course [schedule](#).

If you are in the 8:30am, 11:30am, or 2:30pm labs, you will write your exams in our regular classroom (where we have lectures). If you are in the 10am, 1pm, or 4pm labs, you will write your exams in the computer lab. It is essential that you show up at the lab time that you have signed up for, or else you have missed the exam.

The only exception is the final exam. All students will complete the final exam in our regular classroom (regardless of which lab they attend). See the Final Exam Schedule for the day and time.

All exams will be cumulative; they will cover material from all parts of the course. In general, most students do not like cumulative exams. However, research has shown that cumulative exams result in more learning and higher grades. Many students have difficulty understanding statistics and passing Psy 210. My primary goal is to get as many students to pass this course as possible. Therefore, we will use cumulative exams.

Each exam will have two parts: a [take-home](#) portion and an in-class portion. You will bring the take-home portion of the exam with you to the in-class exam.

There will be a total of five exams. There will be four exams during the semester. You cannot re-take these exams, and **there will be no make-up exams for any reason**. However, I will drop the lowest of these four exam scores. Therefore, if you are sick or you have a family emergency, you can skip the exam and it will not influence your course grade in any way. In the past, students have told me that it is a great relief knowing that their lowest exam score will automatically drop. Moreover, students who complete every exam are not penalized - their lowest exam score also drops.

The last exam is the final exam. The final exam cannot be dropped. If you are too sick on the day of the final exam to take the exam, give me a doctor's note saying that you are too sick to complete an exam and we will reschedule it.

If you do better on the final exam than you do on your best three mid-semester exams, I will ignore the mid-semester exams. So, your mid-semester exams are worth either 20% of your grade or 0%, and your final exam is worth either 20% or 40%. If you do well on your final exam, that's great! It will be worth 40% of your mark. If you do poorly on your final exam, don't stress out. It's only worth 20%.

So, even if you do poorly on the first couple of exams, you can still get a good grade in the course - all you have to do is master the material before the end of the semester. UNLV expects
that you will spend 12-16 hours on this course per week. Perhaps you spend 12 hours per week on this course at the beginning of the semester, but you find that you are only getting Cs on the exams. If you want a higher grade, then you can increase your studying and do well on the remaining exams and the final exam, and get the grade you want.

To prepare you for the graded exams discussed above, the Personal Trainer website includes practice quizzes for each chapter in the text. I strongly recommend you complete these practice quizzes. However, these practice quizzes are not graded and are NOT the lab quizzes. The lab quizzes are the ones that are available through WebCampus on the Assessments tab.

See the resources for information about materials you can use to help you during exams.

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**Important Dates**

- Exam 1: Thurs Sept 17
- Exam 2: Thurs Oct 8
- Exam 3: Thurs Oct 29
- Last day to drop or withdraw from classes: Friday Oct 30
- Exam 4: Thurs Nov 19
- Final Exam: To be announced

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**Deadlines**

Quizzes, assignments, and homework must be completed by midnight on Monday. See the weekly timeline and the course schedule for specific deadlines. No late work will be accepted.

Exams must be completed on the days when they are scheduled. No make-up exams will be allowed.

Exceptions:

Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity to make up the missed work. The
make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. You must notify me no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes of your intention to participate in religious holidays that do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit:
http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=164

Also, students who represent UNLV at an official extracurricular activity shall have the opportunity to make up assignments, homeworks, and quizzes, but the student must provide official written notification to me no less than one week prior to the missed activities.

Finally, students who are legally required to miss school (e.g., jury duty, military duty) will be given the opportunity to make up missed assignments, homeworks, and quizzes. The student should provide me with as much advance notification as possible.

WebCampus Deadlines

You will complete quizzes in WebCampus and you will hand in assignments and homeworks in WebCampus. Therefore, it is important for you to know how deadlines work in WebCampus.

When you are working on an ASSESSMENT, it is possible for you to quit in the middle, and then come back later to finish it. However, keep in mind that the timer for quizzes and exams does not stop. If you start an exam at 4pm, you only have until 7pm to finish it, even if you have to switch computers in the middle of the exam.

For ASSESSMENTS, as long as you START an assessment before the deadline, WebCampus will allow you the full time limit. Quizzes are 1 hour long and are due at midnight. So, if you start a quiz at 11:30pm, you can work at it until 12:30am: You just have to keep the quiz open the whole time. For example, you can answer the questions you know, then leave the quiz open while you re-read a section in the book, and come back to the quiz when you were ready. On the other hand, if your computer crashes or you lose your Internet connection, you will NOT be allowed to re-enter the quiz if the midnight deadline has passed. So, this is a risky strategy. Make sure you answer all the questions you are sure about first and save your work regularly.

For ASSIGNMENTS, WebCampus has very strict deadlines. If I tell WebCampus that the deadline is midnight, then it will accept your assignment at 11:59pm, and at 11:59 and 58 seconds. However, it will not accept your assignment at one second after midnight. You do not have until 12:00 and 59 seconds. You have until 11:59 and 59 seconds.

Also, keep in mind that it can take several seconds for your computer to react when you click the submit button. Depending upon Internet traffic and connection speed, it can take a minute or two for the computer to react. In addition, you will sometimes lose Internet connectivity, and computers sometimes crash. Therefore, you should submit all assignments and homeworks several hours before the deadline, so that you have time to go to another computer, if necessary, in order to submit your work.
Finally, keep in mind that WebCampus phone support ends at 11pm. If you are having trouble with WebCampus, you can get immediate help by calling 702-895-0777, but only if you discover the problem between 7am and 11pm.

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**Working Together**

Students will work individually and in groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Individual or Group</th>
<th>Where and When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>work on this individually or in groups of 2-3 students; hand it in individually</td>
<td>in class on Thursdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeworke</td>
<td>individually</td>
<td>sometimes in class, sometimes outside of class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>individually</td>
<td>outside of class, in WebCampus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>individually</td>
<td>in class on Thursdays, on paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading checks</td>
<td>individually</td>
<td>in class on Tuesdays, on paper</td>
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</table>

You may work on assignments individually or in groups of 2-3 students. Assignments will be marked identically, regardless of whether you talked to others or not. Most students find that it is easier to complete assignments in groups, and that they learn more. However, every student must hand in an assignment, so that we have something to grade in WebCampus.

Working in groups is beneficial because

- it teaches students to be active problem-solvers
- it improves students' communication, team-work, and leadership skills
- most problems (including business problems and research problems) are solved by teams who work together, and so this teaches students how to work in groups

Despite the fact that you did the assignment together, you must still submit the assignment individually. This way, we can assign each student a grade in WebCampus.

When you work in groups on assignments, **everything that you submit must be something that you helped to create**. By submitting an assignment, you are asserting that you made a substantial contribution to that assignment. Having one person do an assignment and having three people hand it in is not acceptable. If someone misses the class when the team worked on an assignment, then that student should complete the assignment on their own. Furthermore, don't hand in someone else's work as though it was your own. In a practical sense, what this
means is that the only people whose hands touch the keyboard and mouse are the people who will be submitting it.

On the other hand, this does not mean that you cannot talk to other students about the assignment. In fact, quite the reverse: Even if you are completing an assignment individually, I encourage you to work on assignments at the same time as other students and talk to them about it extensively.

In contrast, when you are working on homeworks, you must do these individually. The purpose of the homeworks is to help you with your individual educational and career goals, or to get feedback on the course. Therefore, each student must do the homeworks by themselves.

Finally, you will complete quizzes, exams, and reading checks individually. Do not talk to anyone during the quizzes or exams. If you complete a quiz, exam, or reading check at the same time as another student, do not share information with them in any way. However, you can talk to students after the quiz, exam, or reading check is finished. You will have two opportunities to complete each quiz. I strongly encourage you to talk to other students, the lab instructor, and myself to figure out the material you found challenging, before you take the quiz the second time.

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Reading Checks

At the beginning of class, you will complete a short Reaching Check to test your knowledge of the material that was covered in that week's chapter. These reading checks will be short (just 2 - 5 questions) and are designed to be easy if you have taken good notes.

During the Reaching Checks, you may use the following resources:

- Your lecture notes. These may include notes you took during class, while watching lectlets and labs, and while reading the text.

During reading checks, you may NOT use the following:

- Any person or resource not explicitly listed above.
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Resources during Quizzes

During WebCampus quizzes, you may use the following resources:

- The syllabus and course schedule
- The required course textbook
- The optional study guide
- The Personal Trainer website, including the lectlets, ESTAT, DataGen, and labs
- Your lecture notes. These may include notes you took during class, while watching lectlets and labs, and while reading the text.
- A calculator
  - You may use any calculator you want. A $5.00 version that has a square root key and a single memory function is adequate. Calculators with special statistical functions are permitted, but you will be required to show your work anyway.
- A ruler

During lab quizzes, you may NOT use the following:

- Any person or resource not explicitly listed above

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Resources during Exams

During the in-class exams, you may use the following resources:

- A formula sheet that covers the most recent material
  - 8.5 x 11
  - double sided
  - either hand-written or typed or a combination
  - all material must be created by YOU. The only exception is graphs and tables - you may copy these from other published sources.
- The formula sheets for all previous exams (e.g., for exam 3, you can bring 3 formula sheets)
- A calculator
  - You may use any calculator you want. A $5.00 version that has a square root key and a single memory function is adequate. Calculators with special statistical functions are permitted, but you will be required to show your work anyway.
  - You may NOT use a cell phone. Cell phones are communication devices.
A ruler

During exams, you may NOT use the following:

- Any person or resource not explicitly listed above

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**Formula Sheets**

Each exam will have an in-class portion and a take-home portion. The take-home portion is the creation of a formula sheet that covers the most recent material. You will hand in your formula sheet with your exam. Your formula sheet will be graded based upon whether it included all of the important material.

I require students to create formula sheets because

- Having a formula sheet reduces stress during the exam, and so allows students to demonstrate what they know.
- When you are using statistics in your professional life, you will be able to look things up.
- Creating a formula sheet is the single best method for studying for a statistics course.

The formula sheet must cover ALL of the important material from the assigned chapters. It should include

- definitions of concepts
- formulas
- statistical symbols
- example calculations
- pictures/graphs

The formula sheet will be

- 8.5 x 11
- double sided
- either hand-written or typed or a combination

All material must be created by YOU. The only exception is graphs and tables - you may copy these from your textbook or other published sources.

Your final formula sheet must be flat. However, you can attach things to it. For example, if you want to copy a graph from the textbook, you can photocopy it (perhaps making it smaller when you copy it), and then attach it to your formula sheet with glue, tape, or staples.
For each exam, you will create one formula sheet. You will bring that formula sheet to the in-class exam, and hand it in at the end. During the exam, you may also use all of your previous formula sheets. So, for exam four, you will be able to use four formula sheets.

You will get better at making formula sheets as the semester goes along. If you want, you can redo some of your early formula sheets. For example, when you are studying for the final exam, you may realize that you omitted some important material from your first formula sheet. If you have room, you can add it to your existing sheet. Alternatively, you can re-do the formula sheet that covers the first chapters in the course.

Your formula sheets will be graded, based upon (a) organization and (b) whether they included all of the important material from the assigned chapters. It is important that your formula sheets are graded. If they were not graded, then only the most diligent students would create good formula sheets. But it is the students who are struggling with the course who most need the formula sheets. By grading the formula sheets, I ensure that all students create high quality formula sheets, that will be helpful tools during the exams.

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**Workload**

You should plan to spend 12 - 16 hours per week on this course. This is because UNLV expects that, for a typical class, students will do 3 or 4 hours of homework for every one hour in class. For the usual 3-credit course, this would be 7.5 - 10 hours of homework each week. However, this is a 4-credit course, and so you should probably plan on 12-16 hours per week. If you are not able or willing to do this much work for this class, you are likely to get a bad grade or to fail and I recommend you take this class when you have more time to devote to it.

**Students who fall behind or who skip some material are unlikely to pass the course.** It is very difficult to catch up if you fall behind. Do not procrastinate.

At the beginning of the course, the material is quite easy, and you will likely be able to keep up with this course in only 5 to 8 hours for the first couple of weeks. Do not be lulled into a false sense of security by this. The material will accumulate and you will need to study harder after the first two weeks.

**PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology**
# Grades

Your grade for this course will be based upon five components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments and Homeworks</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Checks</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams 1-4</td>
<td>20% or 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20% or 40%</td>
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See Exams section for more information.

The grading scheme for the course will be as follows:

- A: 93 - 100
- A-: 90 - 92
- B+: 87 - 89
- B: 83 - 86
- B-: 80 - 82
- C+: 77 - 79
- C: 73 - 76
- C-: 70 - 72
- D+: 67 - 69
- D: 63 - 66
- D-: 60 - 62
- F: Below 60

Grades may be scaled to ensure an appropriate class average.

## PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

### Attendance

Attendance in class is required. There will be two classes each week, on Tuesday and Thursday. On Tuesday, you will complete a short quiz and will actively participate in class activities. If you are late or do not attend, you will receive a 0 on the in-class quiz. On Thursday, you will work on assignments in small groups or complete an exam. If you miss the class on Thursday, you can complete the work outside of class time, but it will be harder for you to arrange to do the work with other students.

In addition, you are required to complete work on the computer. You will watch lectlets, complete labs, and complete lab quizzes on the computer. You will hand in your assignments and homeworks on the computer.
Because this is a hybrid course, you are required to do some work on the computer and some work in person. This allows us to take advantage of the best features of both methods.

**PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology**

**Computer Requirements**

You must use a computer for this course. Lectlets, labs, lab quizzes, assignments, and homeworks will be completed on the computer.

You can use the computers in the UNLV library or open computer labs. They meet the requirements for this course.

- If you are using a UNLV computer to listen to the lectlets, you will need to bring your own headphones.

You can use your own computer to listen to the lectlets, complete labs and lab quizzes, and complete the individual homework assignments. If you want to use your own computer, make sure it meets the following requirements.

- You must use a computer for this course. Most of the course materials will **NOT** run on a SmartPhone.

- Windows and Macintosh computers are both okay. Both 32-bit operating systems and 64-bit operating systems are okay.

- Your computer will need access to the Internet. According to the WebCampus website, WebCampus will work well with most the recent versions of Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Safari. Click here for more information. If you are having trouble with the WebCampus website, try switching browsers.

- You will need Microsoft Excel. For a Windows machine, any recent version of Excel will be fine. **For a Macintosh computer, you will need Excel 2011 or later.**

- Your computer will need a **sound card** with either speakers or a headphone. To check your sound system, open the Personal Trainer lectlets, and click Tutorial. If you can hear audio, your system is adequate.

You should complete the group assignments in class on Thursday. These assignments use SPSS, which UNLV has purchased for your use. If it is not possible for you to complete these assignments at UNLV, you can **lease** SPSS for your personal computer.
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Personal Trainer

*Personal Trainer 5.0* (Hurlburt, 20012) is a computer program that will help you learn statistics. *Personal Trainer* works with both Windows and Macintosh computers.

*Personal Trainer* was written by Russell T. Hurlburt, who also wrote your textbook, and so they are designed to go together. It includes a complete set of lectlets, and modules to help you with algebra, eyeball estimation, and data exploration. Finally, to prepare you for the graded exams discussed earlier, *Personal Trainer* includes practice quizzes for each chapter in the text. I strongly recommend you complete these practice quizzes. (Note, however, that these are NOT the quizzes you will hand in each week. These are simply for practice.)

You **MUST** have access to the *Personal Trainer* website in order to complete this course. Many lab assignments require that you use *Personal Trainer*, and those labs will teach you skills that you need for the lab quizzes and the exams.

You will access *Personal Trainer* through the Internet. Access is included free with your textbook. If you purchase a used printed copy of the textbook, you will have to purchase access to the *Personal Trainer* website from Kendall Hunt ([http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtwebsiteonly/](http://www.kendallhunt.com/hurlburtwebsiteonly/)).

You can access the *Personal Trainer* website [here](http://).  

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SPSS

You will complete SPSS assignments during class on Thursdays in CBC B135. The assignments will provide you with step-by-step instructions. If you work in a group of 2-3 students, the assignments are easy. One student will read the instructions out loud while another student implements the instructions on the computer.

SPSS is the most commonly used statistics program in the social sciences. Learning to use SPSS is beneficial because

- Working with SPSS will improve your computer skills.
- Learning SPSS will help you understand the concepts behind the statistics you are learning.
• SPSS is used in many upper-division courses in Psychology and the other social sciences.
• SPSS is an essential tool in social science research.
  • Students who are familiar with SPSS are highly sought-after by professors who have research labs. Experience in a research lab greatly improves the chances of being accepted into a graduate program.
  • Students who are familiar with SPSS have a better chance of getting into graduate school and of succeeding when they are there. If you do not learn SPSS now, you will need to learn it on your own in your first year of graduate school.
  • Many people use SPSS (or similar programs, like Systat) to analyze data in the workplace. Being able to analyze data using the computer will open up employment opportunities for you.

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WebCampus

All Distance Education courses at UNLV use WebCampus. You will use WebCampus to

• access course materials like the syllabus, schedule, assignments, and homeworks
• complete lab quizzes
• see your grades
• send mail to the instructor, TAs, and other students.

All UNLV students have accounts on WebCampus. To log in, you will use your ACE username and password.

After Aug 24, you should be able to see Psy 210 when you log in to WebCampus.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Prerequisites

Introductory psychology (PSY 101)

College algebra (Mat 096, 124, or 126)

If you have not taken one of these math courses, take the "Self-test for arithmetic" found in Appendix B of the textbook immediately. If you don't score 90% or higher on that test, you should seriously consider dropping this course and adding an algebra course.
PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

How to Register for PSY 210

To avoid late fees, you should register for this course before the first day of class.

Please ensure that you have the computer equipment necessary to operate this course before you register.

Then use the same registration procedure you would use for any other UNLV course. To register for the 4-credit lecture, use the following call numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Section 1005</th>
<th>Tues Thur 8:30 - 9:45</th>
<th>BEH 112</th>
<th>83350</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Section 1006</td>
<td>Tues Thurs 11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td>BEH 119</td>
<td>83351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Section 1007</td>
<td>Tues Thur 2:30 - 3:45</td>
<td>CBC C224</td>
<td>85907</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to registering for the lecture, you should also register for the 0-credit lab. You will pay $0 in tuition for the 0-credit lab, and you will not be assigned a course grade for it. All of your work will be assigned and graded by the instructor of the lecture section for which you register. None-the-less, you should register for the 0-credit lab, so that people who read your transcript will know that there was a practical component to this course. To register for the 0-credit lab, use the following call number:

| Lab     | Section 1008 | 86031 |

To check if you have registered for the lab, log in to MyUNLV, and look at your current course listing.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.
An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html

NOTE: I take an extremely dim view of cheating, and will recommend penalties as extreme as the UNLV Code allows.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Professor

Dr. Kimberly A. Barchard
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
http://faculty.unlv.edu/barchard/

Office Hours

Hours Tuesday 1:00 - 2:00pm
Office CBC B346
Phone 702-895-0758
Email kim.barchard@unlv.edu

During my office hours, I will be in my office and I will answer the phone if you call. Outside of office hours I rarely answer my phone and I rarely check for phone messages.

Put "Psy 210" in the subject line. Otherwise, it may be several days before I read your email.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Teaching Assistants

The following teaching assistants will help me prepare course materials and will help you complete the course. If you need to contact one of them, put "Psy 210" in the subject line. Otherwise, it may be several days before she reads your email

Sean Beakstead seanbeckstead@me.com Will assist students completing assignments.
PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Students: Who Should Take This Course?

This is a hybrid course. Students will do some work in class and some work on the computer outside of class. This course has been designed to take advantage of the best features of in person and online instruction. Students should take this course if

- They want to learn the material at their own pace (either faster or slower than others).
- They want help with the difficult material.
- They have difficulty maintaining their motivation in a fully online course.
- They like to interact with other students and the instructor.
- They want one-on-one help from the instructor.
- They are available to come to campus for regular class meetings.
- They are comfortable using computers to access course content.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Advice from Former Students

Near the end of the semester, PSY 210 students (in both live and Distance Education sections) provide advice they would like to share with incoming students. Was there anything that they wished they had known at the beginning of the semester? Here's what they said, basically unedited...

| This is the first method that I have ever used to truly learn statistics. ... The lectlets are great, the book is well written, informative but not dry, and the quizzes keep you on your toes. Do not get behind, do the work assigned and enjoy an understanding of Statistical Methods. --Alan |
| If you stay on top of everything there is no way you won't understand what is going on. Read the book, listen to the lectlets and take advantage of everything offered on the Personal Trainer. If you keep up with the syllabus there is no way you will fail. --Vivien |
| My advice would be to definitely do the homework problems, which help tremendously with the test. I would also recommend reading the book along with taking lecture notes because your tests have information in them that is more |
thoroughly discussed in your book, although your lectures are great too.

It's also good to take notes from the book as you read, and draw the distributions that are given as examples in the book.
The last thing that I would recommend is trying to understand statistics, not just memorize the equations. When you do that, the class is so much easier to understand.

--Ruff

**I wish there was advice when I first started the class!**

For both live and distance-education classes I would tell them to pay strict attention to the side notes (in the textbook margins) and definitely listen to the lectlets whether they are distance ed or not. For me, it really made a difference in my comprehension of difficult principles.

--Monica

**I found that the strong points of the course were in the organization of the material.** There was not any concept that I could not learn if I just went back and listened again to the lectlets or went over the ESTAT lessons again. I found they were more helpful than the book, which was easier to get lost in.

--Tiffany

**Ask for help when you need it,** right when you need it. And take the quizzes all of the times you are allowed because you might improve your score.

--Fall 2011 student

### PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

#### Tutoring

Many students find it useful to work with a tutor for Psy 210. Often, having a tutor is less time consuming and less frustrating than failing the course and taking it again. In my experience, 1 hour of tutoring per week is usually sufficient.

The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times, and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex, #22 on the current UNLV map. Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling (702) 895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: [http://www.unlv.edu/asc/tutoring](http://www.unlv.edu/asc/tutoring)

In addition, I have recruited a few students who are qualified to tutor this course. These tutors might be more expensive than the tutors available through the Academic Success Center, but they may be able to work with you individually or in a group. Contact each person directly to find out what their rates are, and when they are available.

| Caroline Maykut | caroline.maykut@gmail.com | Graduate student | Was teaching assistant for Psy 210 for Dr. Ba |
PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Disability Resource Center

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The DRC is the official office to review and house disability documentation for students, and to provide them with an official Academic Accommodation Plan to present to the faculty if an accommodation is warranted. Faculty should not provide students accommodations without being in receipt of this plan.

UNLV complies with the provisions set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, offering reasonable accommodations to qualified students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC-A), Room 143, and the contact numbers are: Voice (702) 895-0866, fax (702) 895-0651. For additional information, please visit: http://drc.unlv.edu/

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

WebCampus Help

During this course, you might have difficulty with WebCampus. You might forget your password, have difficulty logging in, or have difficulty seeing the course content, or have difficulty seeing assessments and assignments. These last two problems are often caused by using the wrong browser or not having Java. Try switching browsers and updating Java. If that doesn't help, there are several ways to get help with WebCampus.

1) When you are signed into Psy 210 on WebCampus, click "Services" at the top left, and then select "WebCampus Support Page".

2) Access the WebCampus Support Page directly by clicking here.
3) Submit a help request through the online IT Help Desk: http://oit.unlv.edu/help/webcampus

4) Visit the help desk in SU 231 or CBC B113. See the following webpage for hours: http://oit.unlv.edu/help

5) Call 702-895-0777 between 7am and 11pm, seven days a week, including holidays.

PSY 210: Statistical Methods in Psychology

Submit comments on this syllabus

Your name
Your affiliation
(school or university)
Your e-mail address
Comments:

Submit comment  Cancel