Course Syllabus  
University of Miami  
Psy 204 AB  
Introductory Biobehavioral Statistics  
Fall 2007

Instructor: Hillary S. Hoffman, Ph.D.  
Time: Monday, Wednesday 8:45 – 10:00 A.M.  
Friday 9:00 – 9:50 A.M.  
Location: FHF 535  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00–12:00 and by appointment  
Room 512, Flipse Building  
Phone: 786–200–6919  
E-mail: H.Hoffman@miami.edu  
You can expect your messages to be answered within  
24 hours, but there will be no e-mail responses  
between Friday evening and Sunday morning.  
I also have a mailbox on the 5th floor of the Flipse Building.

I. OVERVIEW

This course introduces you to the fundamentals of statistical analysis. It  
is not meant to be a scary, difficult course. I will tell you what you need to  
learn and what you will be tested on. There will be no surprises. You may even find you like the subject.

II. REQUIRED MATERIALS

Text: Garvetter, Frederick Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (6th edition)

A calculator capable of calculating square roots.

Students should bring the text, a red pen, and a calculator to class.
III. CLASS FORMAT

The class will follow a standard format. First, you will be assigned a chapter to read. Then, at the beginning of the next class, you will take a four question multiple choice quiz to ascertain that you actually read it. The remainder of the class will be a lecture on the material. At the end of the lecture, homework will be assigned from the chapter. We will review questions regarding homework at the beginning of the next class.

Please turn off all cell phones and beepers or, at the least, put them on vibrate mode.

IV. HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned from each chapter and reviewed at the beginning of class. Homework is intended to reinforce the learning that occurs in the classroom. In addition, homework allows you, the student, to become aware of your weak areas and ask questions in class. Please note that the answers to most problems may be found in the back of your text so that you may check your work.

I highly recommend that you complete all homework assignments and ask any questions you may have at the next class. **ALL TEST QUESTIONS WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS AND LECTURE MATERIAL.**

Homework is graded A (100) or F (0). **To get 100, you MUST:**

1) Complete the assignment by the **beginning** of class on the due date. No homework will be accepted late without a doctor’s note or religious reason.
2) Attempt **all** problems in order to receive credit. Even one skipped problem will result in a 0 (zero) on the **entire** assignment.
3) **Show your work.** A correct answer with no work shown (even for one problem) will receive a 0 (zero) on the **entire** assignment.
4) Write neatly, place your name on your homework, and **staple** multiple pages. No staple= no credit. (And that’s a stupid reason to get a zero!) The average of these homeworks will account for 10% of your grade.
V. QUIZZES

After you are assigned to read a chapter, a short quiz will be given at the beginning of the next class. The quizzes will not be hard. They are solely meant to motivate you to do the reading before class.

Quizzes will consist of 4 multiple-choice questions. All correct is an A (100), 1 wrong is a B (89), 2 wrong is a C (79), 3 wrong is a D (69), and all wrong is an F (0). The average of these quizzes will account for 10% of your grade. Missed quizzes may not be made up as they are meant to keep you on schedule. A doctor’s note is necessary for a “bye.”

VI. EXAMS

There will be four exams, each worth 20% of your final grade. They will include multiple choice, short answer, and calculations. The exam dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>1–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>5–8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Oct 29</td>
<td>Exam III</td>
<td>9–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>13–17, Summary Section</td>
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</tbody>
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A review session will be held in the class preceding each exam. Please note that the exam dates are subject to change dependent on the pace of the class.

Missed exams will be counted as zeros except for extraordinary circumstances. Acceptable reasons for missing an exam would include health problems, a death in the family, etc. Please note that arrangements should be made with me before the exam. Students who are granted permission to take a test late will be given a different and presumably harder exam. The student is responsible for initiating any makeup exam.
VII. ASSESSMENT

Student evaluation is based on:
- Homework (10%)
- Quizzes (10%)
- 4 Exams (20% each)

Attendance is not required. However, you will not be permitted to come for the quiz and then leave. This is distracting. In addition, please be aware that some exam questions will be drawn from the lectures, so on the days you miss class, it behooves you to get the notes from a classmate.

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97–100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94–96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A–</td>
<td>90–93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87–89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84–86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B–</td>
<td>80–83</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77–79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74–76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C–</td>
<td>70–73</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67–69</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64–66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D–</td>
<td>60–63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0–59</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
VIII. HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS

It is my hope that you will not find this course as difficult as you are perhaps anticipating. Here are some suggestions to make this a reality:

- You cannot read the textbook like a novel. You should study it carefully and work through the examples given in order to understand the concepts and methods described.

- Do your reading before class so that you will know what is going on in class and will be prepared for the quizzes. Remember— they are worth 10% of your grade.

- Do the nightly homework to make sure you understand the material. Ask questions the next day if you are unsure. You will not do well on the exams if you cannot do the homework.

- Make sure you learn the symbols as you progress through the course. The book really will look like Greek if you do not take the time to learn what the symbols stand for.

- You cannot get behind in this course. This is not a course where "cramming" the night before is likely to pay off.

- This course is cumulative. You cannot skip over confusing chapters in hopes that it won't matter in the long run. In the long run it probably will matter because you need to understand the material in the early chapters if you are going to understand the material in the later chapters.

IX. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to meet the University's academic conduct standards. All acts of academic misconduct (i.e. academic dishonesty), including cheating, plagiarism (copying other people's work without giving credit), misrepresentation, and facilitating academic dishonesty will be referred to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for review and appropriate action. In this class, students who violate academic conduct standards will receive failing grades.