



PsyC08 - Introduction to Data Analysis

Winter 2002

Instructor: Steve Joordens

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Instructor Information

Instructor: Steve Joordens
 Office: S560
 Phone: (416) 287-7469
 E-mail: joordens@psych.utoronto.ca

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:30 - 4:00 or by appointment

Teaching Assistant Information

There are three teaching assistants for this course, and each of them have one office hour per week. All office hours are held in room S567B. The TAs and their specific office hours are listed in the table below. To e-mail a specific TA, just click on their name.

Thomas Spalek - T1
Marty Niewiadomski - T2
Erin Sheard - T3

Th 11 am - noon
Fr 2 - 3 pm
Tu 12 - 1 pm

Course Description

In PsyB07 (Introduction to Data Analysis) we introduced you to several inferential tests including the z-test, the chi-square test, and a variety of t-tests. You were also introduced to a number of concepts relevant to these tests and to data analysis in general.

This course (Advanced Data Analysis) continues on from PsyB07 by introducing you to the most commonly used class of inferential test called the analysis of variance. While the course will focus primarily on the various forms that analyses of variance can take we will also be discussing a variety of other tests and concepts relevant to these issues.

My hope is that by the time you are finished in this course you will have all the statistical tools you would require for analyzing data associated with the experimental designs that are most commonly used in psychological research..

Lecture and Tutorial Format

This course involves 3 hours of lecture per week and 1 hour of tutorial. I will use the lectures to teach you the material, and your understanding of the material will be tested via quizzes given during the tutorials. Specifically ...

The lectures will be just that ... me lecturing in a style that will be very similar to the style of the PsyB07 lectures. I strongly suggest that you read the relevant chapters prior to each lecture, then come to class and make sure I make you understand it. If not, ask questions. My hope is that these lectures will provide a friendly interactive learning context.

The quizzes about 20 - 30 minutes each and will be held during the tutorials. The tutorials will begin with you writing the quiz. Then the TA will go over the quiz with you, addressing any questions you may have about it. The hope is that these tutorials will allow you to test your knowledge as well as providing a means for you to ask more procedural type questions.

By my calculations you will likely write 8 quizzes throughout the term. Only your best 6 quizzes will count towards your final mark.

Textbook

The textbook used in the course is the 5th Edition of David Howell's *Statistical Methods for Psychology*. I think this is generally a good and readable book, and my lectures will follow it fairly closely.

This edition is new this year and there are used 4th Editions available for sale. This leads to the obvious question - is the 5th Edition necessary? The chapters we cover in C08 have changed quite significantly across editions and given this I generally recommend you go with the 5th edition. That said, all the same concepts are discussed in the previous edition (although the formulas used are different) and while it would not be optimal, you could likely get by with the previous edition if money is a real issue for you.

There is also a *Students Solution Manual* for this text which provides long-form answers to the questions at the end of the chapters. I have placed a copy of this manual on reserve at the library for you to use to check your answers if you wish.

Course Notes

This is not an easy course and the best way to learn it is to listen and think during the lectures. This can be hard to do if you're busy scribbling down every word I say as I say it. Thus, to help out a bit, I have placed power-point versions of my lectures on the course website. These files can be downloaded and printed, and I recommend you have a printed copy of the day's notes with you when you attend lectures. That allows you to listen and to simply add your own comments here and there instead of noting everything I say.

You should realize though that these notes are basically skeletons of my lecture, skeletons that I add meat to as I teach. They are not meant as lecture substitutes and I doubt they would be very suitable as lecture substitutes.

Evaluation

Your mark in this course will be comprised of three components:

Midterm exam worth 40%
Final exam worth 50%
Best 6 quizzes worth 10%

The exams will not be cumulative. Thus, the midterm will cover approximately chapters 11 & 12 and the final will cover approximately chapters 13 & 14.

In contrast to previous years, the exams this year will be comprised of some multiple choice (approx 30%) and some short answer questions (approx 20%) in addition to asking you to demonstrate your ability to use the statistical techniques taught in class via long-hand problem solving (approx 50%).

Webpage

Chances are that you are reading this off of the course website. If not, the website is located at:

<http://psych.utoronto.ca/~joordens/courses/PsyC08>

The course website contains links meant to provide further support to you as a student in PsyC08. A copy of this syllabus is there, as are the course notes. There is also a link you can use for e-mail support, and a link to a mathematics refresher webpage. This refresher page is very useful for those of you who may not have used your basic math skills for some time, and I highly recommend you check it out if you are feeling at all math-phobic about the course.

Critical Dates

February 28th (1- 3 pm) - Midterm Exam

March 10th - Last day to drop the course

April 4th - Last class

April 15th - May 2nd - Final Exam