PSYC 2300: Statistics in Psychology

Spring 2026

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this syllabus and schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.
- Alan Hernandez Cortes

Jump to: Instructor Information | Course Information | Materials & Technology
Assignments & Exams | Grades | Course Policies | Support Services | Schedule

Instructor Information

Name

Alan Hernandez Cortes, Ph.D.

Office Location

Life Science Building, room 404

Office Phone

817-272-2281

Email

alan.hernandez@uta.edu

Faculty Profile

Coming soon!

Office Hours

Mondays & Wednesdays 11:30 am – 12:30pm

By appointments (in-person and online) (send me an email so we can work out a meeting time)

Communication Guidelines

My preferred communication method is email.

I will usually be able to respond to emails and voice messages within 24 hours during weekdays. Messages sent after business hours on Friday or during the weekend will be answered the following weekday.

Course Information

Section Information

PSYC 2300-001

Course Description

Course Title: Statistics in Psychology

This course is intended to cover basic statistical techniques used in, but not limited to, psychology research. The course aims to teach the underlying principles of statistical concepts and help you learn how to correctly summarize, analyze, interpret, and report the results from datasets, skills that can be beneficial in many contexts (e.g., educational, professional). Some of the essential topics covered include descriptive and inferential statistics, null-hypothesis significance testing, and common statistical analyses such as t-tests, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), correlations, and regression.

Prerequisites: PSYC 1315, and MATH 1301, MATH 1302, MATH 1315, or MATH 1402 (or equivalent)

Time and Place of Class Meetings

Time: Monday & Wednesday 1:00 pm – 2:20 pm

Location: UH 108

Time Zone

This course operates on Central Time. All times listed for class meeting times, exams, and assignment deadlines are in Central Time (CT).

Classroom/Lecture Recording Policy

Faculty maintain the academic right to determine whether students are permitted to record classroom and online lectures. Recordings of classroom lectures, if permitted by the instructor or pursuant to an ADA accommodation, may only be used for academic purposes related to the specific course. They may not be used for commercial purposes or shared with non-course participants except in connection with a legal proceeding.

Recording of classroom and online lectures in this course is not allowed.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Understand key concepts that make up the most used statistical analyses in psychology (and plenty of other fields)
2. Understand how to select the appropriate statistical techniques given a set of data and research question
3. Interpret and analyze common statistical techniques
4. Understand how significance testing is used in psychology research
5. Use critical thinking skills needed in scientific research
6. Understand the value of being a critical “consumer” of statistics (an important value given the ubiquity of statistics in everyday life)
7. Communicate scientific findings efficiently and successfully
8. Conduct popular statistical analyses using SPSS

Course Materials and Technology

Textbook Information

Required Textbooks and Materials

1. *The UTA Statistics for Psychology SPSS Manual*. Stipes Publishing. ISBN: 9781646174805 ($39.72 at the UTA bookstore); this manual will be of great help when completing the SPSS assignments.

2. Cote, Linda R.; Gordon, Rupa; Randell, Chrislyn E.; Schmitt, Judy; and Marvin, Helena, "Introduction to Statistics in the Psychological Sciences" (2021). Open Educational Resources Collection.

   This is a FREE open-source textbook, use the link below to access/download it:
   https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/an-introduction-to-psychological-statistics

   This link is also posted on Canvas.

Technology & Equipment Requirements

You will need to use SPSS (software) to complete some assignments (see **SPSS Assignments** above). This software is available at any university computer lab and, as a UTA student, it is ***free*** for you to download. The instructions on how to download the software will be posted on Canvas. In-class activities, quizzes, and exams will be taken and submitted through Canvas, so be sure you're able to readily access the platform throughout the semester. If you have any issues accessing Canvas or any of the posted class resources email me as soon as possible. You will also need to install Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor to take class exams.

Visit the OIT Services page for a list of Applications and Software available through UTA.

Visit the UTA Libraries Technology page for a list of items that can be checked out or used at the library.

Assignments & Exams

Exams

There will be three exams which include the final exam, they will count for a total of 40% of your final grade (approx. 13% each). Each exam will be closed-book and cover a set of chapters and lecture content that will be specified in class and in a study guide provided before the exam. The ***exams will test material that appeared only in the book, only in the lectures, and in both***, so it is very important for you to keep up with both the textbook reading and class lectures/attendance. Exams can also include questions that will have you interpret the results of statistical analyses conducted in SPSS. **NOTE**: you will ***not*** need to use SPSS during the exams. Exams can only be made up if missed as an excused absence. If you know you will be unable to attend class on an exam day, contact me as soon as possible (***before*** the exam) so we can work out any possible arrangements. While taking an exam, only the browser and tab in which you are taking the exam should be open. All browser tabs, programs, apps, etc., should be closed before beginning to take an exam. Browsing the internet (e.g., switching browser tabs), using notes or class materials (e.g., lecture slides), using the textbook, the use of GenAI, using your phone, or any other study aid is not allowed during exams as it will count as

cheating. Cheating or other academic misconduct will be reported to the university as a violation of academic integrity and the exam will receive a grade of 0. Phones should be put away (e.g., in your pocket, backpack, etc.) while taking the exam, they are not allowed to be used during exams. Also, the lowest exam grade will not be dropped.

****IMPORTANT**** – Exams (including the final exam) will be taken on Canvas **using LockDown Browser and Monitor** during class, so you will need to bring a laptop to class on exam dates (see the dates below). **You will NOT be able to receive credit for the exam if you are not present in the classroom.** Exams that are started or completed outside of the classroom will automatically receive a grade of 0. If you're unexpectedly unable to make it to an exam, you should not take the exam outside of class (otherwise it will receive a grade of 0), but you should contact me as soon as possible so we can discuss if it's eligible to make up (see **Make-up Exams & Late Work Policy** section below). Also, **WEBCAMS WILL BE USED** during the exams to record the testing session, so you will need to make sure your laptop has a working webcam. It is your responsibility to make sure LockDown Browser and Monitor are installed and fully functional by the time you show up to class (or the ATC) for an exam. Be sure your laptop is fully charged before arriving in class so the battery won't run out during the exam. Students with accommodations may take the exams in the Alternative Testing Center (ATC).

In-class Activities/Attendance

Activities will be done individually during class. These activities will have you engage and reflect on the material from the lectures and readings. They are to be submitted, on Canvas by the end of class to receive full credit. In total, they are worth 10% of your final grade. As these activities are *part of your attendance grade*, they cannot be made up (except in cases of university excused absences). Lectures will not be recorded so **you will have to be present in class to complete and receive credit for them**. In-class activities completed outside of class will receive a grade of 0. Activity answers should reflect your own work and using GenAI to complete them is not allowed (see the **Generative AI Use in this Course** section below), its use will receive a grade of 0 on the activity.

Quizzes

There will be 10 quizzes that will make up 20% of your final grade. Quizzes will be taken on Canvas and you are able to take them from home, they will need to be completed by the due dates listed in the **Course Schedule** (see below). Quizzes should be taken individually without the assistance of other students and you should not discuss the quiz questions/answers with classmates, not following this policy will constitute a violation of academic integrity and will be reported to the Office of Community Standards and the quiz will receive a grade of 0. Likewise, the use of GenAI during quizzes is not allowed and its use will also be reported as a violation of academic integrity (see the **Generative AI Use in this Course** section below) and receive a grade of 0.

The quizzes will be over the material we have covered in class, the textbook, and in-class activities. These quizzes will help you refresh the material so that you are better able to keep up with the lectures and they can also preview what will be on upcoming exams. And, the lowest quiz grades will not be dropped.

SPSS Assignments

There will be 5 of these assignments (worth 30% of your final grade) and they will all require the use of SPSS (see **Technology Requirements** below). The assignments will also need you to download datasets that you will use to run statistical analyses and interpret and

report their results. These datasets will be available on Canvas. Assignment instructions will be covered during class and posted on Canvas. All assignments will be **due by 11:59 pm** on their due date (see dates below in the **Course Schedule)**. Also, be sure you review the **Make-up Exams & Late Work Policy** section below. The use of GenAI to complete SPSS assignments is also not allowed (see **Generative AI Use in this Course** section below) and its use will be reported to the university as a violation of academic integrity. The assignments should only include your own work, copying answers (e.g., plagiarism) or using screenshots from another student's assignment will count as cheating and reported to the Office of Community Standards, in addition to receiving a grade of 0 for the assignment.

Grading Information

Assignments	Values (points)
Exams (3)	300 points (100 each)
SPSS Assignments (5)	225 points (45 each)
Quizzes (10)	150 points (15 each)
In-class Activities/Attendance	75 points (1-10 each)
	Total: 750 points

Students are expected to track their performance throughout the semester, which Canvas facilitates, and seek guidance from available sources, including the instructor, if their performance drops below satisfactory levels. Refer to the Student Support Services section below.

Final grades will not be "bumped" up to a higher grade.

Final Grade Calculations

Earned (pts or %) Range	Letter Grade
89.5 – 100%: **671 – 750** points	A
79.5 – 89.4%: **596 – 670** points	B
69.5 – 79.4%: **521 – 595** points	C
59.5 – 69.4%: **446 – 520** points	D
0 – 59.4%: **0 – 445** points	F

Late Work Policy

All late work will incur a 10% penalty for every 24-hour period it is late and after 5 days it will receive a zero. In-class activities cannot be made up (as they are also attendance grades) and you must be present in class to complete and receive credit for them.

Make-Up Exams Policy

Exams can be made up at the discretion of the professor and if you miss an exam day due to illness or a university-related event and you can provide the appropriate note to support the reason for your absence.

Extra Credit Policy

Extra credit opportunities will be available in class throughout the semester.

Grade Grievance Policy

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog: Grades and Grading Policies.

Course and University Policies

Attendance Policy

Students should review the University Class Attendance Policies on the Class Attendance Policies page. The following attendance policy will be applied in this course.

As the instructor of this section, I will intermittently take attendance through the completion of in-class activities we will have throughout the semester. You must be present in class for the activity to receive a grade.

Generative AI Use in This Course

The use of Generative AI (GenAI) in course assignments and assessments must align with the guidelines established by the instructor. Unauthorized use of GenAI could result in breaches of academic integrity. Instructors are responsible for clearly delineating the permissible uses of GenAI in their courses, underscoring the importance of responsible and ethical application of these tools.

Community Standards within the Office of the Dean of Students articulate the university's stance on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty. These standards extend to the use of GenAI. Unauthorized or unapproved use of GenAI in academic work falls within the scope of these policies and will be subject to the same disciplinary procedures.

As the instructor for this course, I have adopted the following policy on student use of GenAI.

Prohibition of GenAI Use:

In this course, the focus is on the development of independent critical thinking and the mastery of subject-specific content. To ensure that all submitted work accurately reflects personal understanding and original thought, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools in completing assignments or assessments is strictly prohibited. This policy supports our commitment to academic integrity and the direct measurement of each student's learning against the course's Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). Any work found to be generated by AI will be subject to academic review.

Institutional Policies

UTA students should review the University Catalog and the Syllabus Institutional Policies page for institutional policies and contact the specific office with any questions. The institutional information includes the following policies, among others:

- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Academic Integrity
- Electronic Communication

UTA Honor Code

UTA students are expected to adhere to and observe standards of conduct compatible with the University's functions as an educational institution and live by the University of Texas at Arlington's Honor Code. It is the policy of The University of Texas at Arlington to uphold and support standards of personal honesty and integrity for all students consistent with the goals of a community of scholars and students seeking knowledge and responsibility.

Student Support Services

Student Services Page

The Student Services page provides links to many resources available to UTA students, including:

- Academic Success
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Health Services
- Students with Disabilities
- Veteran Services

Students are also encouraged to check out Career Center resources to enhance their career-readiness, find student employment, search for internships, and more. We encourage Major Exploration and the use of Experiential Major Maps to keep students on track for graduation. Refer to the Graduation Help Desk for more details.

Accessibility of Course Materials

Some course materials, such as PDFs of musical scores, technical drawings, graphs, blueprints, design plans, or artworks (common in fields like drawing, painting, or construction drafting), may not fully comply with all Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) requirements.

The University of Texas at Arlington is dedicated to ensuring all students have equal access to information. If you experience any accessibility barriers with course materials, please know that accommodations are available. You can get assistance through the Student Access and Resource (SAR) Center or by contacting your instructor directly. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need help.

Online Academic Success Guide

Visit the Online Academic Success Guide to explore a list of helpful tips and resources to help you succeed in your online journey.

UTA Health and Wellbeing Resources

UT Arlington is committed to the safety, success, and well-being of our students. To support our community, UTA has established a Community Advocacy, Response, and Engagement (CARE) Team, a dedicated group of campus professionals responsible for helping students who could benefit from academic, emotional, or psychological support, as well as those presenting risks to the health or safety of the community. If you know of someone experiencing challenges,

appearing distressed, needing resources, or causing a significant disruption to the UTA community, please submit a CARE Referral by visiting the CARE Team page. You may also submit a referral for yourself if you would like additional support.

UTA students also have access to virtual, on-demand emotional support, appointment-based counseling, advanced psychiatric care, and more. For more information, visit TimelyCare.

NOTE: If a person's behavior poses an immediate threat to you or someone else, contact UTA Police at 817-272-3003 or dial 911. If you or someone you know needs to speak with a crisis counselor, please reach out to the MAVS TALK 24-hour Crisis Line at 817-272-8255 or the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.

Librarian to Contact

Each academic unit has access to Librarians by Academic Subject who can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism, citation references, as well as support with databases and course reserves.

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Topics	Assignments & Due Dates
Week 1	Mon. 1/12	Class Intro & Ch. 1: Introduction	
	Wed. 1/14	Ch. 1 (cont.)	
Week 2	Mon. 1/19	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	
	Wed. 1/21	Ch. 2: Describing Data Using Dist. & Graphs; Intro to SPSS	**Quiz #1 due** (11:59pm)
Week 3	Mon. 1/26	Ch. 3: Central Tendency & Spread	
	Wed. 1/28	Ch. 3 (cont.)	
Week 4	Mon. 2/02	Ch.4: Z-scores & Standard Normal Dist.	**Quiz #2 due** (11:59pm)
	Wed. 2/04	Ch. 4 (cont.)	
Week 5	Mon. 2/09	Ch. 5: Probability	**Quiz #3 due** (11:59pm)
	Wed. 2/11	Exam Review	
Week 6	Mon. 2/16	Exam #1	
	Wed. 2/18	Ch. 6: Sampling Distributions	
Week 7	Mon. 2/23	Ch. 7: Intro to Hypothesis Testing	
	Wed. 2/25	Ch. 7 *(cont.)*	SPSS Assignment #1 Intro
Week 8	Mon. 3/02	Ch. 7 *(cont.)* & Ch. 8: Intro to t-tests	**Quiz #4 due** (11:59pm)
	Wed. 3/04	Ch. 10: Independent Samples	**SPSS Assignment #1 due** (11:59pm); **Quiz #5 due Sun. 8th** (11:59pm)
Week 9	Mon. 3/09	Spring Break	
	Wed. 3/11	Spring Break	
Week 10	Mon. 3/16	Ch. 10 *(cont.)*	SPSS #2 Intro
	Wed. 3/18	Ch. 9: Related Samples	**Quiz #6 due** (11:59pm)
Week 11	Mon. 3/23	Ch. 9 (*cont.*)	**SPSS #2 due** (11:59pm)
	Wed. 3/25	Exam Review	**Quiz #7 due** (11:59pm)
Week 12	Mon. 3/30	Exam #2	
	Wed. 4/01	Ch. 11: Analysis of Variance	SPSS #3 Intro
Week 13	Mon. 4/06	Ch. 11 (*cont.*)	
	Wed. 4/08	Ch. 12: Correlations	**Quiz #8 due** (11:59pm); **SPSS #3 due** (11:59pm); SPSS #4 Intro
Week 14	Mon. 4/13	Ch. 12 (*cont.*)	
	Wed. 4/15	Ch. 13: Linear Regression	**SPSS #4 due** (11:59pm); **Quiz #9 due** (11:59pm)
Week 15	Mon. 4/20	Ch. 13 (*cont.*) & Ch. 14: Chi-square	SPSS #5 Intro
	Wed. 4/22	Ch. 14 (cont.) & Wrap-up	
Week 16	Mon. 4/27	Exam Review	**Quiz #10 due** (11:59pm)
	Wed. 4/29	Student Study Day (No Class)	**SPSS #5 due** (11:59pm)
	Fri. 5/01	**Final Exam** – Friday, May 1st 11:00am - 1:30pm Room UH 108	