



**Sociology 2205a (572)  
Statistics for Sociology  
Fall/ Winter 2025-2026**

**Instructor: D. Maynard**

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## **Course Information**

### **Calendar Description:**

An introduction to the techniques of statistical analysis used by sociologists, including descriptive statistics, the normal curve, hypothesis testing and various measures of association.

**Antirequisite(s):** [Biology 2244A/B](#), [Economics 2122A/B](#), [Economics 2222A/B](#), [Geography 2210A/B](#), [Health Sciences 3801A/B](#), [MOS 2242A/B](#), the former Psychology 2810, the former Psychology 2820E, [Psychology 2811A/B](#), [Psychology 2830A/B](#), [Psychology 2850A/B](#), [Psychology 2851A/B](#), Social Work 2207A/B, [Statistical Sciences 2035](#), [Statistical Sciences 2141A/B](#), [Statistical Sciences 2143A/B](#), [Statistical Sciences 2244A/B](#), [Statistical Sciences 2858A/B](#).

**Prerequisite(s):** At least 60% in 1.0 from Sociology courses at the 1000 level, or [Thanatology 1025A/B](#).

**Extra Information:** 3 lecture hours. Recommended in Years 2 or 3 of a Major, Specialization or Honours Specialization offered through the Dept of Sociology.

**Course Weight:** 0.50

**Breadth:** Category A

**Subject Code:** SOCIOLOG

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

# STATISTICS FOR SOCIOLOGY

## SOC 2205a 572 Fall 2025

### King's University College at the University of Western Ontario

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#### INSTRUCTOR

Prof. D Maynard

Email: dmaynar3@uwo.ca

Office/Office hours: Please see course owl page (I'm mostly drop-in in-person around class times with zoom by appt.)

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#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

##### *In general:*

Students will become familiar with fundamental principles and techniques of basic descriptive and inferential statistics in sociology. In so doing, students will be able to choose, use, and make sense of univariate and bivariate descriptives, and be able to tell when our inferences from sample to population are justified on these measures. This course should significantly increase numeracy regarding the use and abuse of social statistics, while also providing the foundation for the multivariate material at the more advanced level.

##### *In specific, students will:*

- Understand the basic concept 'level of measurement' and which statistical techniques are meaningful for different levels
  - Know what a characteristic we've measured 'looks like' by being able to choose, calculate and meaningfully interpret the correct descriptive information
  - Know what an association (relationship) between two characteristics we've measured 'looks like' by being able to choose, calculate and meaningfully interpret the correct descriptive information.
  - Understand the basic concept of having to link our research sample to the real world and think about whether they are the same (whether we can make 'inferences' from our research to the real world)
  - Decide whether the characteristic we've measured is likely to be 'true' (exist out there in the world and not just in our research) by being able to choose, calculate and meaningfully interpret the correct inferential information
  - Decide whether an association between two characteristics we've measured is likely to be 'true' (exist out there in the world and not just in our research) by being able to choose, calculate and meaningfully interpret the correct inferential information.
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#### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Healy, Donahue and Prus. 2022. *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research*. 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition. Nelson Education.

*Please feel free to use a used copy, all the way back to the second edition – some of the chapter numbers are a bit different but the material is basically the same. Other similar stats texts available in the library are also quite appropriate – simply look up the information you seek by topic (chi square test will be the same in different books for example)*

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## OWL BRIGHTSPACE

Most resources/information and requirements can be accessed through OWL. Notes will be provided in full, well before class. Assignments will be posted online as well. My office hours, information on tests, supplementary material etc. Will all be on OWL and accessible to students.

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## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<b>5 Homework Assignments</b>	<b>40 (8% each)</b>
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Final Examination</b>	<b>30%</b>

*N.B. There are no participation or attendance marks assigned for this course.*

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## DETAILED COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Course Plan</b>	<b>Assigned Reading</b>
Sept 09	Introduction, Basic Descriptive Statistics	Chapter 1, 2
Sept 16	Measures of Central Tendency and Dispersion	Chapter 3
<b>Sept 23</b>	The Normal Curve <b>Homework 1 due</b>	Chapter 4
Sept 30	Inferential Statistics	Chapter 5
Oct 07	Confidence Intervals <b>Homework 2 due</b>	Chapter 6
Oct 14	Hypothesis Testing I: One-sample case	Chapter 7
<b>Oct 21</b>	Hypothesis Testing II: Two-sample case <i>Midterm Exam Review</i> <b>Homework 3 due</b>	Chapter 8 Review of all material up to this point
<b>Oct 28</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	<i>No Reading</i>
Nov 04	Reading week	<i>No reading (ha!)</i>
Nov 11	Hypothesis Testing IV: Chi Square	Chapter 10
Nov 18	Association and Nominal Measures <b>Homework 4 due</b>	Chapter 11
Nov 25	Association and Ordinal Measures	Chapter 12
Dec 02	Association and Interval Measures: Regression	Chapter 13
<b>Dec 09</b>	<i>Final Exam Review</i> <b>Homework 5 due</b>	
Final Exam Period	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	Review all Post-midterm material

*\* Note that the readings and lecture schedule may vary slightly from the above*

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## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

An emphasis in the current course will be on the *application* of the many concepts and techniques covered in class and through the required readings in our textbooks. Five homework type assignments

spread throughout the term will allow you the chance to practice the techniques we cover as well as getting feedback and academic credit for doing so.

Homework assignments will be provided at least one week before they are due (usually much earlier) and will cover some technique(s) learned recently in class.

Students are encouraged to try on their own, and/or work with other students in understanding how to complete them. However, each student must still do and submit their own work – simply copying answers from another student is considered academic misconduct and will be disciplined. You can also always meet with the instructor to discuss possible difficulties or concerns – this is a hands-on course and your instructor is a useful resource.

**AI:** yes it does math – no, it shouldn't do yours. Do not use AI for any portion of your assignment work – not even to 'check your answers' (that's not what's being graded anyway). All AI use (Grammarly, chatGTP, translation software etc.) in this class will be considered academic misconduct because it actively stops you from learning in this context.

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## **MIDTERM EXAM**

The Midterm exam is scheduled as 2.5 hours. Readings, Lecture Materials and Homework Assignments (and extra practice) are all important in preparing for this test. The exam will include a series of MC and True/False questions focused on concepts and definitions, as well as a 'problems' component where students are expected to identify and solve statistical problems by identifying and using appropriate formulas to calculate and interpret solutions much like in the homework assignments. This 'problems' section will be the focus of the exam and is where the majority of grades will be apportioned. Exact details as to test coverage will be officially presented during lecture, the week before the Midterm. Note discussion about the test happens all the time and is really ongoing – there are no surprises in this class.

Note you cannot use an 'undocumented ACR' for the midterm exam in this class – this is a Designated Assessment so you must file a documented absence and be granted permission for a makeup if you miss the exam

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## **FINAL EXAMINATION**

The final examination is 3 hours in length and will have a very similar structure to the mid-term exam. While the final exam is not strictly cumulative (you will not be specifically retested on any material from before the mid-term), the nature of the course is – it builds on what you learn as you go. Students should expect to continue to use material learned early in the course to understand and apply techniques learned later in the term. Note that students are not able to use an undocumented ACR on final exams at all at Western, including here at King's.

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## **CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Despite the lack of participation grades, class attendance in this course is expected and also integral to student success for all but the math-strongest students. This course is extremely hands-on and every week we will be physically doing the expected techniques through lecture examples for sure, but especially

though group-participation style board work where students can participate or benefit just by being in the room. We use an ‘exposure’ method where student become familiar and learn by being repeatedly exposed to the material and ideas in a meaningful way. As mentioned, there is also near constant chat about assignment and test expectations etc. as we all work through the course together. Be prepared to be present

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**Additional Course Costs:**

Students are strongly encouraged to use older copies of the text, buy locally from former students, or use library/reference copies, or even texts covering similar material. For students wishing to purchase the newest copy from the publisher, the cost can be found here: <https://www.cengage.ca/c/statistics-a-tool-for-social-research-and-data-analysis-5e-healey-donoghue-prus/9780176922047/>

A non-programmable calculator is also required for this course – students can purchase the least expensive model from any big box store for less than 20\$, or can be signed out of the library for free.

# KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

## GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

### 2025-2026

#### **1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences**

##### **Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)**

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

##### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at [https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses\\_enrollment/exams\\_and\\_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf](https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf).

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf)

##### **Absences from Final Examinations**

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

## **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

## **2. Support Services**

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

### **GBSV Support:**

King’s is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing [Care@kings.uwo.ca](mailto:Care@kings.uwo.ca) or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western’s Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html)

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

### 3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

**Use of Electronic Devices:** Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

**Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom:** King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

### 4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **5. Copyright of Course Material**

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

### **6. Use of Recordings**

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

### **7. Policy on Attendance**

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.