



**Sociology 2205b (570)
Statistics for Sociology
Fall/ Winter 2025-2026**

Instructor: S. Goodwin

Email: shane.goodwin@uwo.ca

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.

SOC 2205B (570)
Statistics for Sociology
Fall/Winter 2025-2026

Course information:

Course Name, Number, Section: Statistics for Sociology, 2205B, 570

Instructor(s): Shane Goodwin

Contact Information: shane.goodwin@uwo.ca

Office hours: by appointment

Course description:

This course is intended to provide the foundation required to understand how to choose, implement, and interpret data for studying social processes and social phenomena. The methods are not unique to Sociology, however our focus is to contextualize statistical methods to social research. During the first part of this course we will learn how to describe data and summarize the distribution of the data using estimates such as the mean, frequency tables, and measures of dispersion. In the second part of the course we will focus on inferential statistics to make statements surrounding the data and understanding the relationship between two variables.

Course learning outcomes:

By the end of this course students will:

- Recognize basic statistical techniques and be able to select the appropriate analysis for a given question and data.
- Obtain the skills necessary for summarizing and analyzing data, including common data visualization methods.
- Develop an appreciation of the complexities of data and the impact of our assumptions on the interpretation of statistics.
- Develop critical thinking skills surrounding the interpretation of statistical output.

Mode of Instruction:

In-person

Course textbooks/materials:

There is no required textbook for this course, however acquiring a textbook for additional practice is important. A free-online textbook is available for use.

Recommended Textbooks:

1. Illowsky, Barbara, and Susan Dean (2018). *Introductory Statistics*. OpenStax, Rice University

This textbook is *free* at the following website:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/introductory-statistics>. You may download each chapter or access it online.

The textbook is an aid for understanding and practicing course material. Past students have found that more they needed more practice questions than the free textbook provided. Additional examples and questions may be provided on OWL. Any readings from the textbooks that match taught content are labeled **IS** or **Healy** in the course schedule.

Additional Useful Textbooks:

1. Haan, Michael, and Jenny Godley. *Statistics for Canadian Social Scientists, Third Edition*. Oxford University Press.
2. Healy, Donahue and Prus. 2022. *Statistics: A Tool for Social Research. 5th Canadian Edition*. Nelson Education.

If you are looking for additional practice questions beyond the free online textbook or are seeking an alternative explanation of course material, these are Canadian-focused introductory statistics textbook that have been successfully used by students in the past. A used copy could be purchased on Amazon for as low as \$20.00.

Required Materials:

The only required material for this course is a **calculator** with exponential and square root functions and should be purchasable for approximately **\$20.00**

Method of evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Assignments (3) | 30% |
| 2. Quizzes (3) | 15% |
| 3. Midterm | 25% |
| 4. Final Exam | 30% |

1. Assignments (30%)

Students will be required to complete 3 homework assignments that cover recently reviewed course material, each worth 10%. Assignments will be accepted without penalty if they are submitted within 24 hours of the due date. After that, a penalty of 10% per day will be applied, including weekends. Assignments more than 5 days late will receive a grade of zero. All assignments will be submitted on Brightspace and each assignment should be expected to take two hours to complete.

2. Quizzes (15%)

Three short quizzes will be conducted in class on the dates of **January 22, February 5, and March 12**. You will have 15 minutes to complete the quiz. All quizzes will be open book.

3. **Midterm Exam (25%)**

Students will be required to write one midterm exam on **February 26** during our regular class time. It will include multiple choice questions and short-answer questions related to all material covered to that point in the course. You will have two hours to complete the midterm exam. Please remember you will need a calculator with the above described functions. You will be allowed to bring a one-page memory aid. Students who miss the midterm will be required to obtain special consideration from the Academic Dean's Office to write a make-up exam.

4. **Final Exam (30%)**

The final exam for this course will be held during the April exam period, determined by registrar. It will cover all material in the course, with an emphasis on material covered after the midterm. Please remember you will need a calculator with the previously described functions. You will be allowed to bring a one-page memory aid. Students who miss the final exam will be required to obtain special consideration from the Academic Dean's Office to write a make-up exam.

Academic Considerations:

For assignments, as described above, students submitting within 24 hours from an assignment due date will not receive a late penalty as a form of universal accommodation (flexible assessments). For **one assignment or quiz**, self-attestation may be used in lieu of submitting supporting documentations for accommodation. In this situation the assignment can be submitted anytime within the 5-day period or excluded from submission, in which case the weight of the assignment will be added to the final examination. In the situation where a quiz is missed, the weight of the missed quiz will be shifted to the other two quizzes.

Accommodation for the midterm examination requires approval from the Academic Dean's Office. Self-attestation cannot be used on the midterm or final examination and any accommodations must be approved from the Academic Dean's Office.

Academic Integrity / Remote Proctoring:

- *Link to Western Scholastic Discipline policy:*
https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Use of AI:

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools to aid in obtaining solutions to practice questions from the textbook readings. The textbooks do provide a solution for each question; however, AI may be helpful in providing an alternative explanation. AI may not be used as a tool to complete assignments for students. Students are expected to develop the

skills necessary to conduct statistical estimation and analyses and be able to interpret statistical information. Use of AI will hinder the ability to develop these skills if AI is used as more than a tool during the learning process.

Schedule of Assessments:

January 22- Quiz 1 and Assignment 1 is released
January 29 - Assignment 1 due
February 5 - Quiz 2
February 26 - Midterm Examination and Assignment 2 is released
March 5 - Assignment 2 due
March 12 - Quiz 3
March 18 - Assignment 2 is released
March 26 - Assignment 3 is due
TBD: Final Examination

Schedule of Topics / Readings:

See the course Brightspace page for a schedule of topics and readings for the course.

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.

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

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/

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 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

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

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.