

**Sociology 2061: Introduction to Social Statistics**  
**Monday – Friday 9:15 to 10:50**  
**Classroom: Duane G131**  
**Summer Session A/2005**

**Instructor:** Tara Opsal  
**Office:** Ketchum 8  
**Email:** tara.opsal@colorado.edu  
**Office Hours:** 11 to 12 Wednesday and Thursday  
**Text:** Caldwell, Sally. 2004. *Statistics Unplugged*. Thompson and Wadsworth.

**Course Description**

Sociology 2061 is designed to introduce you to the basic concepts that make up the backbone of quantitative sociological research. The primary goal of this course is to introduce you to these basic concepts. An additional goal is to help you become an educated and critical consumer of both academic sociological research and statistics that are often presented as “fact” in mainstream media outlets.

**Course Requirements**

*Attendance and Participation:*

Attendance is required—as is participation. Given that this is a summer statistics course, it is much more interactive than a regular semester course. This means that your participation will make the class more fun for all of us (including me). I will assign readings daily, make changes to the syllabus, changes to the course schedule, and give other critical information in lecture. Students are responsible for this information if they are absent or arrive late to class. Overheads from class will be available for your use during my office hours.

*Reading:*

It is critical that you keep up with the readings assigned daily. Each day that you come to lecture, I will expect that you have a rudimentary knowledge of the concepts we will be working through that day. I also suggest working through several of the problems at the end of each chapter before *and* after class—you will find the answers to the problems at the end of the book. Repetition truly is the key to understanding how to “do” statistics.

*Homework:*

We will have various in-class assignments throughout the semester. These in-class assignments may consist of turning in problems that we have worked on together that day in class or problems that I ask you to work on either alone, with a partner, or in a group. **You must be in class when I collect the assignment in order to receive credit.** Your lowest score will not count towards your grade. The in-class homework assignments are worth 30% of your grade.

*Tests:*

There will be four in-class tests which will not be cumulative. Any missed test will result in a score of 0. Make-up tests will only be given in the case of a documented emergency. Each test is worth 10% of your grade (40% of your total grade).

*Final Exam:*

There will be one in-class final exam which will be cumulative. The final exam is worth 30% of your grade.

### Important Dates

Exam 1..... June 6<sup>th</sup>..... Monday  
Exam 2..... June 13<sup>th</sup>..... Monday  
Exam 3..... June 20<sup>th</sup>..... Monday  
Exam 4..... June 27<sup>th</sup>..... Monday  
In-class review..... June 30<sup>th</sup>..... Thursday  
Final Exam..... July 1<sup>st</sup>..... Friday

### Grading

Your final grade is determined by your performance on tests, homework, and the final exam. Grades are based on a percentage of 500 points as shown below:

Percentage	Points	Grade
100	500	A+
99-95	499-475	A
94-90	474-450	A-
89-87	449-435	B+
86-83	434-415	B
82-80	414-400	B-
79-77	399-385	C+
76-73	384-365	C
72-70	364-350	C-
69-60	349-300	D
59-0	299-0	F

### Other Critical Information

#### *Extra Credit*

There are no opportunities for extra credit in this course.

#### *Policies for Students with Special Needs*

If you have specific physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please submit a letter from Disability Services as soon as possible so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. Disability Services is located in Willard 322 (303-492-8671).

#### *Classroom Behavior and Honor Code Policies*

As a result of extensive discussions with and recommendations from faculty and students, a new classroom behavior policy procedures and honor code system have been adopted by the University. Please see (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html>) and (<http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>) for more information, respectively.