

**Advanced Quantitative Methods in Sociology**

Sociology and Anthropology 855

Section: D100

Term: 2008 Fall

Instructor: Dr Fernando De Maio

Email: fdemaio@sfu.ca

Office: AQ 5075

Phone: (778) 782-6636

Discussion Topics: Quantitative methods have a rich history in social research. They have formed an important component of critical research strategies which aim to explore questions of human rights, poverty, inequality, discrimination and power. This course explores how advanced quantitative methods are used in the contemporary literature (focusing for the most part on sociology and social epidemiology). The course builds from an understanding of univariate and bivariate statistics and examines a range of multivariate strategies: ordinary least squares regression, logistic, ordinal, and multinomial models, and hierarchical (multilevel) regression. The course revolves around a close reading of the research literature and hands-on application of statistical analysis; as such, the emphasis is on critically evaluating published work and setting up / interpreting analyses. It is for the most part an applied course, aimed at students in the social sciences who are interested and want to learn more about the use of quantitative methods.

Grading: 30% - Reading reports (3 reports, each worth 10%)

20% - Lab assignments (2 assignments, each worth 10%)

20% - Proposal

20% - Project paper

10% - Presentation

"All the assignments in this course must be completed for a final grade to be assigned. The Department of Sociology and Anthropology follows SFU policy in relation to grading practices, grade appeals (Policy T 20.01) and academic dishonesty and misconduct procedures (Policy T 10.03). It is the responsibility of students to inform themselves of the content of these policies (available on the SFU website under Administration, SFU Policies & Procedures)."

Required Texts: The course will not rely on a specific textbook. Instead, we will closely read a number of

journal articles. Most of these will be listed in the course outline available at the

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beginning of semester and others will be added throughout the course. T

Recommended Texts: Other texts and journal articles will be recommended in lectures throughout the semester.

Materials/Supplies: None

Prerequisite/Corequisite: An upper division undergraduate course in quantitative methods which covers statistical analysis (including probability and significance, hypothesis testing, and univariate and bivariate techniques) or permission of the instructor.

Notes: All students are expected to read and understand SFU's policies with regard to academic dishonesty (T 10.02 and T 10.03). These policies are available at the following web addresses: <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-02.htm> and <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-03.htm>

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.