Minnesota State University Moorhead

SOC 350: Methods and Statistics for Social Research

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: 4

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:
This course requires any of these 14 prerequisites
    MATH 105 - Contemporary Mathematics
    MATH 110 - Introduction to Mathematics
    MATH 127 - College Algebra
    MATH 127L - College Algebra with Lab
    MATH 134 - Applied Statistics
    MATH 142 - Pre-Calculus
    MATH 143 - Trigonometry
    MATH 234 - Introduction to Probability and Statistics
    MATH 227 - Survey of Differential Calculus with Algebra
    MATH 229 - Topics in Calculus
    MATH 261 - Calculus I
    MATH 262 - Calculus II
    MATH 210 - Concepts from Discrete Mathematics
    PHIL 340 - Symbolic Logic

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Focus on the logic of science, a survey of basic methodologies, and introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 04/05/2005 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to scientific inquiry, including conceptualization, operationalization, and measurement; quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry; the role of statistics in scientific inquiry.

2. Introduction to statistics with an emphasis on social science applications, thus developing basic statistical literacy, including descriptive statistics; inferential statistics; bivariate measures of association; and multivariate techniques.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Students will be able to assess and analyze researchers' decisions regarding techniques of designing research and reporting data.

2. Students will be able to describe and interpret major trends revealed by data, including evaluating the authors' interpretations.

3. Students will be able to evaluate procedures used to collect data underlying the statistics presented.

4. Students will become familiar with the advantages and limitations of the more commonly used statistical techniques.

5. Students will know which techniques are appropriate for a given set of data and a given purpose.

6. Students will develop sufficient statistical and computational skills and enough experience in the interpretation of statistics to be able to carry out some elementary forms of data analysis by themselves.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

   None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

   None noted