



COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography

Contact: ianoc@uvic.ca
Office Hours: See Brightspace, *or by appointment*
Class Meetings: Mondays and Thursdays 9:00 am to 9:50 am (PDT)
Location: Brightspace's Zoom module and **Synchronous**
Labs: You must be registered in a Lab Section **that you attend**.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- introduce methods for analyzing data;
- introduce descriptive statistics;
- introduce probability;
- introduce sampling;
- introduce inferential statistics;
- introduce non-parametric statistics;
- introduce correlation and simple linear regression;
- introduce basic plots and charts;
- gain familiarity with statistical software (R).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. ability to choose appropriate statistical methods;
2. ability to complete hypothesis tests;
3. ability to use R to carry out basic statistical analyses;
4. ability to report and present statistical analyses.

COURSE FORMAT

Given the current situation and need for physical distancing, the course will be delivered remotely online and will involve a mixture of lab activities and online **live** video lecture sessions.

Because of its online delivery there might be some additional challenges for you as a student.

Please read the following carefully and keep in mind for the course:

- Useful information on online learning can be found at the [UVic Learn Anywhere](#) portal.

- **Brightspace** (which has replaced CourseSpaces) is the main course hub where you will access materials (e.g. the course outline, readings, links), complete quizzes and exams, submit assignments, check your grades, and engage in discussions. This will serve as the main avenue of communication (<https://bright.uvic.ca/>). Please monitor the page on a regular basis for course announcements. If you are having difficulty logging in or password problems, contact the Computer Help Desk Email: helpdesk@uvic.ca, Tel: 250-721-7687
- Much of this course will be delivered “**live**” on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00am-9:50am (Pacific Daylight Time) through the **Zoom** (video-conferencing) platform. All UVic students are automatically provisioned with access to Zoom. To access the live zoom components you will first log into **Brightspace**. Select **Geog226**.
- Click **Course Tools** > Scroll to **Zoom** > Select the **Date** and **time** of the class you are attending. Click on **JOIN**. You may also need to sign-in with Zoom, if prompted sign in with your netlink-id via the **SSO** button. If you have a non-UVic Zoom account it will not let you into the class or labs meeting. For labs follow the same instructions but click on the name of your lab instructor.
- **Attending the live lectures** at the designated times is expected. Real-time interaction with the instructor and class-mates as well as the structure provided by having set times greatly enhances the learning experience. However, recognizing students face unusual challenges in the context of the COVID-19 disruption, detailed course slides and lab instructions will be posted. Lectures and Labs are **NOT** recorded.
- **Technology requirements:** You will need reliable access to the internet and a computer (preferably with webcam/microphone) or a smartphone to connect with the class for the online lessons (through Zoom). You should be comfortable using a word processor such as MS Word (Office 365) and will be required to submit some assignments in .doc or .pdf formats.
- **Technology requirements for Labs:** You will need reliable access to the internet and a computer. You will not be able to complete the labs with a smartphone or tablet. The Labs employ Open source software (R Studio Desktop (<https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio>) You are expected to download and install a copy to your computer. The software is free to access and download. We appreciate that this may not be possible for everyone and if so please let us know and we will endeavour to try and facilitate your remote access to the software.
- The online format can seem strange and awkward at first, but we will do everything possible to make this a **comfortable and effective learning environment**. Keep in mind that we are all new to this format and we all need to be forgiving, open-minded and adaptable. We’re in it together.
- Try and ensure you have a **distraction-free** space at home (or elsewhere) for the online classes.
- To help **build community**, you are encouraged but not required to turn your video on during sessions. However, I understand there are circumstances in which you may be unwilling or unable to do so which is perfectly acceptable. Remember when joining with video, your classmates will be able to see your background.
- The “**live**” **portion** of the course will generally involve lectures, labs, and time for questions and answers. Please listen carefully to directions given at the beginning of class around asking questions and effective dialogue through this format. When you are not actively contributing, please ensure you “mute” yourself to reduce ambient noise.
- Please be respectful, constructive, and professional in all your online interactions. No falling into troll-mode.

REQUIRED TEXT

There is no required textbook for this course, however weekly readings and online learning resources will be provided on BrightSpaces throughout the course.

EVALUATION

Midterm Exam #1 (October 15 th in class)	10%
Midterm Exam #2 (November 12 th in class)	12%
Laboratory Assignments x 8	48%
Final Exam (During Exam period)	30%

Advice: Students have in the past found that the lab assignments can be time-consuming and challenging. We are here to help with this – Please make sure you schedule your time effectively. The Labs are three hours. Please try and plan to be there for the entire lab time. The labs materials are designed to be both **supplemental** and **complementary** to the lectures.

No audio or video recordings are permitted unless approved in writing (in advance) by the course instructor.

Exam Format: The questions for the midterm exams and final exam will be based on lectures, labs, posted learning resources and class discussion. The final exam is comprehensive. Formats includes a combination of short-answer, calculations, and multiple-choice questions. **Electronic devices for use during exams are limited to non-graphing scientific calculators, unless otherwise expressly permitted by the course instructor.**

I will be reviewing the expectations related to academic integrity at the beginning of the course and will be requiring students to commit to an academic integrity pledge within the context of assessment processes including examinations.

Lockdown browser: UVic is in the process of purchasing a site-wide license for a lockdown browser that faculty and instructors can use when proctoring an online exam through the Brightspace LMS starting in the fall term. We anticipate that it will be compatible with Zoom, so that instructors who wish to do so can use the combination of Zoom with the lockdown browser to invigilate exams. **I will be providing more details on this when the term begins.**

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+	9	90-100%	An A+, A, or A- is earned by work which is technically superior, shows mastery of the subject matter, and in the case of an A+ offers original insight and/or goes beyond course expectations. Normally achieved by a minority of students.
A	8	85-89%	
A-	7	80-84%	
B+	6	77-79%	A B+, B, or B- is earned by work that indicates a good comprehension of the course material, a good command of the skills needed to work with the course material, and the student's full engagement with the course requirements and activities. A B+ represents a more complex understanding and/or application of the course material. Normally achieved by the largest number of students.
B	5	73-76%	
B-	4	70-72%	
C+	3	65-69%	A C+ or C is earned by work that indicates an adequate comprehension of the course material and the skills needed to work with the course material and that indicates the student has met the basic requirements for completing assigned work and/or participating in class activities.
C	2	60-64%	
D	1	50-59%	A D is earned by work that indicates minimal command of the course materials and/or minimal participation in class activities that is worthy of course credit toward the degree.
F	0	0-49%	F is earned by work, which after the completion of course requirements, is inadequate and unworthy of course credit towards the degree.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Geography Department website: uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/

Undergraduate Advising: geogadvising@uvic.ca

Department Chair: Dr. David Atkinson geogchair@uvic.ca

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES

A high level of student cooperation and participation, involving asking and answering questions is expected. Students are expected to attend all lectures, take notes and be punctual for class.

Cell phones and portable music players must be **turned off or silenced** during lectures and labs.

Topic handouts based on lecture presentations will be provided before the beginning of class meetings on Brightspace. Students are responsible for downloading/saving and completing notes packages.

Students must complete all evaluation components to obtain credit. Failure to complete any evaluation component without permission from the instructor, will result in an 'N' grade, which equals a Grade Point Value of 0.

Students will not be permitted to write make-up tests except for medical or compassionate reasons. Please inform the instructor of your situation promptly and within **five** working days. Any make-up test or examination may not follow the same format as the in-class one.

Lab assignments are due at the beginning of your lab section; thereafter late penalties will be applied.

Late assignments will be penalized **25% for each 24 hour time period** (including weekends and holidays). After that they will **no longer** be accepted for grade and will receive **0%**. Exceptions will only be granted for medical or compassionate reasons. *Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.*

Details regarding your labs and their marks are managed by the course Lab Instructors. Please discuss any issues or questions on labs with your Lab Instructor first. Any discrepancy with lab grades must be reported to your Lab Instructor, then the Course Instructor within **seven days** of receiving the marked assignment.

Please attend **only** the laboratory section for which you are registered. If you must miss a lab for exceptional circumstances, please make arrangements with your TA in advance to attend another section. This however does not change the due date of your lab assignment. Labs are taught in a **synchronous** manner.

Conflicts with holidays or travel plans are not considered an acceptable reason to apply for a deferred examination or an assignment extension.

Unless otherwise stated students are expected to complete assignments **independently**.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating) is a very serious matter in any academic institution and is dealt with severely at the University of Victoria. *The responsibility of the institution:* Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects. *The responsibility of the student:* Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor.

Infractions will be dealt with in accordance with University policy. Commonly, the penalty for any form of cheating/plagiarism is a grade of F on the tests or laboratory assignments, or a final grade of F in the course. However, depending on the severity of the case other penalties may include a record on the student's transcript or expulsion.

Please familiarize yourself with the University policy on academic integrity found in the Undergraduate Calendar at the following [website](#). Please contact me if you have any questions.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with a ©. **Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor, [except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act.](#)** Violations may result in disciplinary action under the [Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy \(AC1300\)](#).

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (<https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>). The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. **Please note:** You are under no obligation to disclose.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. To ensure that all class members feel welcomed and equally able to contribute to class discussions, we will all endeavour to be respectful in our language, our examples, and the manner in which we conduct our discussions and group work. If you have any concerns about the climate of the class, please contact me.

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

We value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

Course Information

Lecture Topics Tentative Schedule

Week	Dates	Laboratory	Due
1	Sept. 9 – Sept. 11	No Lab	
2	Sept. 14 – Sept. 18	Lab 0 Introduction to Labs (0%) Mandatory attendance	
3	Sept. 21 – Sept. 25	Lab 1 Descriptive Statistics (6%)	
4	Sept. 28 – Oct. 2	Lab 2 Probability (6%)	Lab 1
5	Oct. 5 – Oct. 9	Lab 3 Sampling (6%)	Lab 2
6	Oct. 12 – Oct. 16	No Lab	
7	Oct. 19 – Oct. 23	Lab 4 Confidence Intervals (6%)	Lab 3
8	Oct. 26 – Oct. 30	Lab 5 Non- Parametric Statistics (6%)	Lab 4
9	Nov. 2 – Nov. 6	Lab 6 T-Tests and ANOVA (6%)	Lab 5
10	Nov. 9 – Nov. 13	Reading Break	
11	Nov. 16 – Nov. 20	Lab 7 Correlation (6%)	Lab 6
12	Nov. 23 – Nov. 27	Lab 8 Regression (6%)	Lab 7
13	Nov. 30 – Dec. 4	Review	Lab 8