

ANALYSIS IN SURVEY RESEARCH

SOCIOLOGY 475 – Summer I 2010

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Revision 1.0 (3/10)

Course description: Survey research design and analysis, including theory selection, instrument construction, sampling techniques, data collection, data analysis, and writing up research reports of findings.

Texts: Babbie, Earl. *The Basics of Social Research*. 5th edition. Wadsworth Publishing.
Babbie, Earl. *Study Guide for Babbie's The Basics of Social Research*. 4th ed.
Wadsworth Publishing.

Methods: You will learn quantitative research methods by reading the textbook, and by practicing using these methods by completing exercises in the study guide. Although the texts are intended for a general sociological research class, they are usable for this course because SOC 475 covers the basics of sociological research, along with the details of conducting survey research, and the challenge of analyzing surveys.

Contacting the professor: I am available at almost any time, but please set up an appointment before-hand. You can e-mail me at any time; stay online a few minutes after you e-mail me, as I may reply in minutes if I am near my computer.

Survey research report: In addition to the Exercises in the Study Guide, you will have to locate an academic survey research article, and write a brief report about it; more details will be provided later.

Course requirements: The following will be required of you during the class:

- Read the assigned readings.
- Complete the Matching, True-False, and Review questions.
- Complete the assigned Exercises.
- Complete a report on a survey research study.

As you will be graded on a fixed scale, there is no need to be competitive with your students.

Grading:

Exercises	300	40%
Survey research report	100	20%
Class attendance	<u>200</u>	<u>40%</u>
Total points	500	100%

A+: 483 and up. A: 466-482. A-: 450-465. B+: 433-449. B: 416-432. B-: 400-415. C+: 383-399. C: 366-382. C-: 350-365. D+: 333-349. D: 316-332. D-: 300-315. F: Below 300.

Policies.

Politics and decorum: You are not expected to agree with anything we study, although you must understand it well enough to apply it and critically analyze it. Moreover, you must discuss these ideas respectfully, especially with respect to other fellow students.

Although I expect all students will be respectful to other students, if you think any student has not been respectful to others, please see me. If you think that *I* have not been properly respectful to you or another student, then definitely see me. Although I am idealistic and partisan, I do not mind being told that I have exceeded the comfort level of a student.

Disability: Students with documented disabilities should contact the Disability Services Office and/or me for aid in setting up reasonable accommodations in meeting the course requirements.

Plagiarism: According to the UH Student Conduct code:

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; [or] submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved...

Plagiarism by a student will be punished severely. *Do not plagiarize.*

However, much "plagiarism" is due to students not properly citing work they rely upon. For help learning how to cite references, please see the Manoa Writing Program, http://mwp01.mwp.hawaii.edu/writer_help.htm or see me.

eCAFE: The Department of Sociology is committed to a continual improvement of the quality of its course offerings. To allow for this to occur, your help, as the consumers of these courses is needed. You are there and only you can tell us about your educational experience in your classes. Towards the end of the semester you will be informed that the eCAFE system is available to you to complete your course evaluation, by logging into: <http://www.hawaii.edu/ecafe/>.

If you have questions about the contents of this syllabus, please see me as soon as possible.

Schedule of readings and topics:

PART ONE: STRUCTURING SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY.

1. May 24-28: Introduction and ethics (Babbie, ch. 1, 3; Exercise 1.1, 1.3, 3.1).
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 1
2. May 31 to June 4: Causes and effects (Babbie, ch. 2, 8; Exercise 2.1, 8.3).
NO SCHOOL MAY 31: MEMORIAL DAY
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 7

PART TWO: RESEARCH DESIGN.

3. June 7-11: Research design I (Babbie, ch. 4-5; Exercise 4.3, 5.4, 5.5)
NO SCHOOL JUNE 11: KAMEHAMEHA DAY
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 14
4. June 14-18: Research design II (Babbie, ch. 6-7; Exercise 6.2, 7.1, 7.2).
SURVEY RESEARCH ARTICLE DUE JUNE 14
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 21

PART THREE: SURVEY RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

5. June 21-25: Survey design (Babbie, ch. 9; Exercise 9.2, 9.4, 9.3, 14.1 (start 9.3 and 14.1 early)).
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 28
6. June 28-July 2: Quantitative data analysis (Babbie, ch. 14; Exercise 14.2, 14.3, 14.4).
SURVEY RESEARCH ARTICLE PAPER DUE JUNE 30
EXERCISES DUE JUNE 30.

LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS – JULY 2

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