



Learning STATA

SYA 6933

Instructor: Minking Chen, MS
Office: 610 Bellamy
Office Hrs: T R 3:15pm-4:45pm and by appointment.
Phone: 644-7111
Mailbox: 601 Bellamy
Email: mchen@fsu.edu

Lecture Time: T R: 2:00pm–3:15pm

Class Location: 635 Bellamy

Course Objectives:

It does not matter whether you are a new Stata user, or an infrequent Stata user, after this class, you will learn how to do basic-to-intermediate tasks in Stata. I assume you already have general statistical knowledge, and are familiar with statistical procedures that are related to your research. This class does not teach statistics, per se, but focuses on how to perform statistical analyses using Stata. The overall objective of this course is: you have research questions and data, and I will teach you how to read various format data into Stata, how to do data reporting, manipulation, how to write clean and applicable syntax to perform commonly used statistical procedures in social science (and some advanced procedures related to your specific field) including graphics.

Statistical Software: the course uses Stata version 9 on Microsoft Windows.

Required Textbook: No textbook required. Syntaxes and example data can be downloaded from course web cdph.fsu.edu/sya6933/index.html

Recommended Readings: Stata Manuals. It is always useful to have Stata manuals to learn about the Stata commands. This class will introduce you to many useful Stata commands, however it is important to have the manuals to show you the detail of the syntax of the commands, examples, and technical notes on what the commands are doing.

Course Requirements:

1. **Class participation:** Daily class attendance is highly recommended since most of the material will be explained in class. The material in this course follows a logical progression, and each lecture builds on the previous one. If you miss class, be sure to get notes from other students in the class, also make sure whether you missed any announcements.
2. **Six homework assignments** will be assigned. Unless otherwise specified in the particular assignment, all work is due by the end of the class it is due. Homework solutions will be posted on Friday of the due week. 15% of the points will be deducted from the assignment grade for late work (any time after class, and before solution is posted). NO late homework will be accepted after the solution is posted. You are encouraged to work together on the homework, but DO NOT copy any part of a homework. Each student must produce his/her own homework to be handed in. As part of the requirements for this class, homework must be word processed and in hardcopy (no

electronic copy accepted) for submitting. Please keep a copy of all your work. We cannot assume responsibility for lost items.

3. **Take home final exam.** It will be an application of the methods taught in class. Further details (including the due date) will be given in class.

Grading:

60% for homework.

30% for final exam.

10% on class/lab participation. You can have **THREE** unexcused absences, after that, **ONE** point will be deducted from final course average for each class absence without university-approved excuses (e.g. documented illness, deaths in the immediate family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities, etc.). You are also responsible for arriving class on time and signing the attendance sheet each class. If you are not in class by the time that the attendance sheet has gone around, then you will be counted as late, and **THREE TARDIES** are worth **ONE ABSENCE**.

Extra Credit: Since class participation is so important to this course, **2 points** will be given (added to the final grade) to students who attend **ALL** the classes.

Final Letter Grade:

93 and above	A
90-92.99	A-
87-89.99	B+
83-86.99	B
80-82.99	B-
Less than 80	C

Tentative Course Outline:

The lecture topics and assignments' due day are subject to change depending on how this class proceeds. In other words, some topics may take a bit more time than I have indicated below and some may take somewhat less time than indicated here. **You are responsible for finding out about any announcements made in class.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Notes:</u>
<i>Week #1</i> (1/6&1/8)	Review syllabus, visit course home page; Why Stata (compared with SAS or SPSS)? The basics: windows setting, directory, updates, set memory.	
<i>Week #2</i> (1/13&1/15)	Add-on programs, reading data in Stata: enter data manually; Using and saving Stata data files, reading various foreign data files.	
<i>Week #3</i> (1/20&1/22)	Inputting raw data files into Stata	1 st assignment
<i>Week #4</i> (1/27&1/29)	Reading dates into Stata and using date variables; Converting between string and numeric variables.	2 nd assignment
<i>Week #5</i> (2/3&2/5)	Data reporting: descriptive information and statistics;	
<i>Week #6</i> (2/10&2/12)	Data manipulations	3 rd assignment
<i>Week #7</i> (2/17&2/19)	Append and merge data Convert Stata files to SAS or SPSS without Stat/Transfer	

Week #8 (2/24&2/26)	Reshape data from wide form to long form and vice versa	4 th assignment
Week #9 (3/3&3/5)	Graphics 1	
Week #10 (3/10&3/12)	Spring Break	
Week #11 (3/17&3/19)	Graphics 2	5 th assignment
Week #12 (3/24&3/26)	Common statistical tests in Stata	
Week #13 (3/31&4/2)	Common regression: OLS, logit	6 th assignment
Week #14 (4/7&4/9)	Regression diagnostics:	
Week #15 (4/14&4/16)	Stata top FAQ 1	
Week #16 (4/21&4/23)	Stata top FAQ 2; Review	Take home exam distributed
Final exam week		

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY:

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University’s expectations for the integrity of students’ academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “. . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://dof.fsu.edu/honorpolicy.htm>.)

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

- (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
- (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
sdrc@admin.fsu.edu
<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>

Syllabus Change Policy:

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.