University of St.Gallen

Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2015

4,306: Quantitative Methods

ECTS credits: 3

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)
Central - Written examination (70%, 60 mins.)
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer
4,306,1.00 Quantitative Methods -- English -- Westerwinter Oliver , Lehmkuhl Dirk
4,306,3.01 Quantitative Methods: Independent Studies, Group 1 -- English -- Mannino Massimo
4,306,3.02 Quantitative Methods: Independent Studies, Group 2 -- English -- Mannino Massimo

Course information

Course prerequisites

None.

Course content

Course description: This course provides a systematic introduction in the techniques and instruments of basic quantitative methods in the social sciences. The course is divided into three main parts. The first part deals with questions related to quantitative research design, measurement, and descriptive statistics. Part two covers basic topics of univariate statistics, such as point estimation, interval estimation, and hypothesis testing. The final part is concerned with regression models. The primary goal of the course is to provide students of the social sciences with the skills needed to understand and critically discuss social science research that uses statistical methods.

Goals: At the end of the course, students will have acquired solid training in the basics of descriptive and inferential statistical research methods. This includes knowledge of the elementary mathematical and probability theory related foundations of statistical methods. Furthermore, students will also be familiar with basic techniques of preparing, managing, visualizing, and analyzing statistical data using the computer software R/STATA.

Course structure

Weekly: 9 lectures, 3 exercises.

Course literature

Required readings:

Agresti, Alan and Finlay, Barbara. 2014. Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences, 4th edition. Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

Bertsekas, Dimitri and Tsitsiklis, John. 2008. Introduction to Probability. 2nd edition. Selected chapters.

Additional literature and materials: tba.

Additional course information

For questions, please contact Dr. Oliver Westerwinter, oliver.westerwinter@unisg.ch

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination time and form
Central - Written examination (70%, 60 mins.)

Remark
Central exam (60 minutes).

Examination-aid rule
Extended Closed Book
The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are **exhaustively** listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments **TI-30** series and bilingual dictionaries without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, PDAs, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids
Pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series.

Examination languages
Question language: English
Answer language: English

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2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination time and form
Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (30%)

Remark
3 problem sets each of which counts 10 percent.

Examination-aid rule
Term papers

- Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship.
- The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the APA or MLA standards. The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into the text in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C. (2013), Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien (11th ed., 3rd printing). Aarau: Sauerländer).
- For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers both according to the MLA and the APA standard is never optional.
- Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.
- For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B. (2014, Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende (5. Auflage), Zürich: Schulthess, or the recommendations of the Law School).

Supplementary aids
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Examination languages

University of St.Gallen

Question language: English
Answer language: English

Examination content

Exam-relevant materials are the lecture slides and other lecture materials (e.g. Computer scripts), the exercises as well as the required and (if explicitly indicated in the syllabus) complementary readings.

Examination relevant literature

Required readings:

Agresti, Alan and Finlay, Barbara. 2014. Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences, 4th edition. Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Wooldridge, Jeffrey. 2013. Introductory Econometrics. A Modern Approach. Fifth Edition. New York: South-Western. Appendix B, C.

Please note

We would like to point out to you that this fact sheet has absolute priority over other information such as StudyNet, faculty members' personal databases, information provided in lectures, etc.

When will the fact sheets become binding?

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral and grading form): from the start of the bidding process on 22 January 2015
- Information about decentral examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): after the 4th semester week on 16 March 2015
- Information about central examinations (examination-aid rule, examination content, examination relevant literature): from the start of the enrolment period for the examinations on 6 April 2015

Please look at the fact sheet once more after these deadlines have expired.