

Department of Urban and Regional Planning  
University of Florida  
PO Box 115706  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5706

## URP6231

### Quantitative Data Analysis for Planners

### Fall 2019

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### Course Description

This course provides students with fundamental data analysis techniques and with statistics skills that are required by the Urban and Regional Planning program for use in the planning profession, and in thesis and dissertation research. The course develops analysis skills that allow planning students to operate in the area of statistical analysis - as required for hypothesis testing in general planning, and within the areas of specialization offered by the department. The course includes examples and assignments that provide opportunity to utilize statistical analysis as a problem solving/analysis methodology for environmental decision making in the areas of environmental justice, species and habitat biodiversity, and sustainability. The course supports the department's mission as a core course in its curriculum.

### Course Objectives

- Understand how data analysis and statistics fit into the general planning process.
- Test hypotheses using parametric and non-parametric analysis.
- Analyze statistical data.
- Learn skills required for professional practice and/or for thesis or dissertation research.
- Apply statistical analysis in support of planning problem solving.
- Develop critical thinking skills necessary to compete in the planning profession.

## Recommended Materials

- Field, Andy. (2009). *Discovering Statistics using SPSS; Third edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications. (ISBN 978-1847879073). This text is not required for this course but it is extremely useful and is an excellent source for your use with the concepts and techniques taught in this course and later in professional practice or for thesis or dissertation research. **This text provides example of statistical problems (not necessarily planning problems) using the SPSS software.**
- *SPSS Statistics Student Version 24.0 or greater. Students can use the UFApps SPSS to complete their homework assignments and tests. The Lynda.com SPSS videos are strongly recommended to assist each student in learning the SPSS software. SPSS software will be used for this course and examples solving statistical problems using the software will be provided in the lectures but each student is required to navigate the software using the Lynda.com videos. SPSS is not specifically taught in the course materials, although the instructor uses SPSS in class examples.*

## Course Outline

| Module                   | Topics Covered                                              |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Module 1</a> | Course Introduction, Data Types, and Descriptive Statistics |
| <a href="#">Module 2</a> | Descriptive Statistics                                      |
| <a href="#">Module 3</a> | Hypothesis Testing (One and Two-Sample Case)                |
| <a href="#">Module 4</a> | Multiple Sample Cases                                       |
| <a href="#">Module 5</a> | Correlations                                                |
| <a href="#">Module 6</a> | Simple Linear Regression                                    |
| <a href="#">Module 7</a> | Multiple Variable Regression using Categorical Data         |
| <a href="#">Module 8</a> | Population Projections                                      |

## Course Grade

- **Homework Assignments:** Modules 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 - 10 points each = 70 pts
- **Essay Assignments:** Modules 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 - 10 points each = 60 pts
- **Midterm Exam:** 400 points
- **Final Exam:** 400 points
- **Total:** 930 total points

## Grading Scheme

| Letter Grade | Percentage   |
|--------------|--------------|
| A            | 93-100%      |
| A-           | 90-92.99%    |
| B+           | 88-89.99%    |
| B            | 83-87.99%    |
| B-           | 80-82.99%    |
| C+           | 78-79.99%    |
| C            | 73-77.99%    |
| C-           | 70-72.99%    |
| D+           | 68-69.99%    |
| D            | 58-67.99%    |
| D-           | 55-57.99%    |
| E            | Below 55.99% |

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## Make-up Work and Exams

No late work will be accepted. Computer problems that arise during submission will only be accepted as an excuse for late work with a ticket number from the UF Help Desk. All work must be completed and submitted by the designated time in Canvas or you will not receive credit for the assignment. **All assignments must follow the directions for the assignment or you will not receive credit for the assignment.**

In the event that you have technical difficulties with e-Learning, please contact the UF Help Desk. If you're having technical difficulties and the difficulties will cause you to miss a due date, you **MUST** report the problem to Help Desk. Include the ticket number and an explanation of the issue based on consultation with Help Desk in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test. The course instructor reserves the right to accept or decline tickets from the UF Help Desk based on individual circumstances. If your ticket and explanation is deemed valid it is only valid once, you are responsible to get the problem corrected.

UFApps has been tested and works properly, however waiting till the last minute to work on an assignment and then complaining about access to UFApps is not a valid excuse for submitting a late assignments, quizzes, or tests.

## Course Communication

All communication with course faculty will take place within Canvas. (Select the "Instructor Role" from the address book.) All e-mails will be sent and received within Canvas.

## Etiquette

Course communication should be civilized. The means of communication provided to you through e-Learning, are at your full disposal to use in a respectful manner. Abuse of this system and its tools through disruptive conduct, harassment, or overall disruption of course activity will not be tolerated. Conduct that is deemed to be in violation with University rules and regulations or the Code of Student Conduct will result in a report to the Dean of Students.

## Student Support Services

As a student in a distance learning course or program, you have access to the same student support services that on campus students have. For course content questions contact your instructor.

For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 342-392-HELP (4357). Visit [Information Technology - UF Computing Help Desk](#). For a list of additional student support services links and information please visit [Student Services - Distance Learning](#).

## University Policies

University policies on such matters as add/drop, incomplete, academic probation, termination of enrollment, reinstatement, and other expectations or procedures can be found in the [Graduate Student Handbook](#) and at the [Dean of Students](#) website.

## Student Honor Code

In adopting this [Honor Code](#), the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code. The Honor Pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

## Special Accommodations

Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#). The center will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide it to the instructor.

## Complaints

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit [Student Complaints](#).

## Schedule of Assignments and Course Summary

| <b>Date</b>              | <b>Details</b>                            |                |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday Aug 25, 2019      | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 1</a> | due by 11:59pm |
| Saturday August 31, 2019 | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 2</a> | due by 11:59pm |
|                          | <a href="#">Homework Module 2</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Friday Sep 6, 2019       | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 3</a> | due by 11:59pm |
|                          | <a href="#">Homework Module 3</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Wednesday Sep 11, 2019   | <a href="#">Homework Module 4</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Monday Sep 16, 2019      | <a href="#">Midterm Exam</a>              | due by 11:59pm |
| Saturday Sep 21, 2019    | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 5</a> | due by 11:59pm |
|                          | <a href="#">Homework Module 5</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Thursday Sep 26, 2019    | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 6</a> | due by 11:59pm |
|                          | <a href="#">Homework Module 6</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Tuesday Oct 1, 2019      | <a href="#">Essay Assignment Module 7</a> | due by 11:59pm |
|                          | <a href="#">Homework Module 7</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Sunday Oct 6, 2019       | <a href="#">Homework Module 8</a>         | due by 11:59pm |
| Friday Oct 11, 2019      | <a href="#">Final Exam</a>                | due by 11:59pm |

"Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>."