Required readings are noted in the course schedule and will be posted on Blackboard.

The following books are suggested:


**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of this course is to provide students with the basic data management skills necessary for carrying out quantitative analysis and presenting the results to both lay and professional audiences in public health.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Determine appropriate data, statistical methods, and research design for specific public health needs and projects (Core Competencies AS1).

2. Apply appropriate statistical techniques to, summarize, and interpret data relevant to public health research and practice (AS2).

3. Evaluate the quality of public health research (AS3).

4. Locate, access, and comprehend relevant public health research (PS3).

**IN-CLASS AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:** In-class and homework assignments will be required periodically throughout the semester, without prior notification. In-class assignments may include quizzes on the course readings. If you miss class, you run the risk of missing an in-class assignment. There are no make-up opportunities for in-class assignments.

**PAPER PROPOSALS:** Students are required to write a brief (no more than 3 double-spaced pages) proposal to introduce and describe the focus of the course paper. This proposal should clearly state the research problem and/or research questions that define the specific aims of the project. The proposal should include a working title and at least three references (with full citations) to relevant scholarly research.

**RESEARCHPAPERS:** Students are required to write a quantitative research paper. Final research papers should be no more than 25 pages in length (including references, and tables) and word-processed, with double-spacing, 12-point fonts, and 1-inch margins. Please follow ASA, APA or AMA style guidelines. All articles cited in the paper should appear in the reference section.

**ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:** Students are expected to attend class and participate knowledgeably in class discussions. Please make an effort to attend every class. Excused absences require prior notification or, if notification is impossible, written explanation after the fact. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to approach me or other classmates to find out about what you have missed. Provided that you attend
class, participation is also very important. Participation indicates to the instructor that students are actively engaged in the learning process in general and class discussions in particular. I strongly encourage questions, comments, and the sharing of ideas as they relate to course material.

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**COURSE GRADING:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class and Homework Assignments</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADING SCALE:**

Grading will be according to a standard scale, and plus/minus grading will be used for final grades. FSU does not allow a final grade of “A+.” The specific ranges are below.

- A = 93-100
- A- = 90-92
- B+ = 87-89
- B= 83-86
- B- = 80-82
- C+ = 77-79
- C = 73-76
- C- = 70-72
- D+ = 67-69
- D = 63-66
- D- = 60-62
- F = < 59

**Special Needs:**

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should do the following: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This must be done during the first week of class. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. 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) ssrc@admin.fsu.edu http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/

**Academic Honor Policy:**

Students are expected to abide by the Academic Honor Policy of the Florida State University, including the statement on Values and Moral Standards published in The Florida State University General Bulletin. 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://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy](http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy)).

**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.
## COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Assignments*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-May</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course &amp; Survey Methods</td>
<td>Dillman 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-May</td>
<td>Elements of Research Design &amp; Measurement Issues</td>
<td>Babbie (Chap. 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-May</td>
<td>Data Processing &amp; Univariate Analysis</td>
<td>SPSS introduction Nardi 2006 (Chap. 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-May</td>
<td>Univariate Analysis</td>
<td>Babbie (Chap. 15, pg. 397-406) Proposal Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-May</td>
<td><strong>Memorial Day-NO CLASS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-May</td>
<td>Bivariate Analysis</td>
<td>Nardi Chap 7 Proposal Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Jun</td>
<td>Bivariate Analysis</td>
<td>Nardi Chap 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Jun</td>
<td>Multivariate Analysis</td>
<td>White 2005 DeMaris 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-Jun</td>
<td>Multivariate Analysis</td>
<td>DeMaris 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-Jun</td>
<td>Multivariate Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Jun</td>
<td><strong>Final Paper Due by midnight</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Schedule is subject to change.

## ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS


