# **Minnesota State University Moorhead**

## SOC 350: Methods and Statistics for Social Research

#### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: 4

Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires any of these 14 prerequisites

MATH 105 - Contemporary Mathematics

MATH 110 - Introduction to Mathematics

MATH 127 - College Algebra

MATH 127L - College Algebra with Lab

MATH 134 - Applied Statistics

MATH 142 - Pre-Calculus

MATH 143 - Trigonometry

MATH 234 - Introduction to Probability and Statistics

MATH 227 - Survey of Differential Calculus with Algebra

MATH 229 - Topics in Calculus

MATH 261 - Calculus I

MATH 262 - Calculus II

MATH 210 - Concepts from Discrete Mathematics

PHIL 340 - Symbolic Logic

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Focus on the logic of science, a survey of basic methodologies, and introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics.

#### **B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 04/05/2005 - Present

#### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- 1. Introduction to scientific inquiry, including conceptualization, operationalization, and measurement; quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry; the role of statistics in scientific inquiry.
- 2. Introduction to statistics with an emphasis on social science applications, thus developing basic statistical literacy, including descriptive statistics; inferential statistics; bivariate measures of association; and multivariate techniques.

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

- 1. Students will be able to assess and analyze researchers' decisions regarding techniques of designing research and reporting data.
- 2. Students will be able to describe and interpret major trends revealed by data, including evaluating the authors' interpretations.
- 3. Students will be able to evaluate procedures used to collect data underlying the statistics presented.
- 4. Students will become familiar with the advantages and limitations of the more commonly used statistical techniques.
- 5. Students will know which techniques are appropriate for a given set of data and a given purpose.
- 6. Students will develop sufficient statistical and computational skills and enough experience in the interpretation of statistics to be able to carry out some elementary forms of data analysis by themselves.

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# E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

## G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted

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