# 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.

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

None

### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted