Political Science 201
Political Data Analysis
Fall 2006
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Syllabus

The object of this course is to understand the how and why of basic statistical analysis.

The plan for the course includes no lecture-based examinations and no term papers, and relies instead on a number of primary data research projects to assess the students' understanding of the various statistical tools needed to make sense of the data collected. These projects will cover the following statistical concepts and procedures:

1. Descriptive Statistics: Categorical data
2. Descriptive Statistics: Quantitative data
3. Probability Distributions
4. Comparing quantitative observations from two different groups: the t-test
5. Assessing the relationship between one quantitative measure and another: Correlation
6. Comparing categorical observations from two or more different groups: the Chi-square test
7. Comparing quantitative observations from two or more different groups: ANOVA
8. Assessing the relationship between one quantitative measure and time: Regression
9. Assessing the relationship between one quantitative measure and several other quantitative measures: Multiple Regression

These projects, with some necessary exceptions, will be completed using the computer program known as SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences).

Any student with special instructional needs is requested to discuss those needs with me at the student's earliest convenience.