

SYLLABUS

Course: CJ 215-50 Criminal Justice Research

Instructor: Ken Szymkowiak, Ph.D.

Phone: 735-9959

Meetings: Unless otherwise announced, this class meets from 5:30 - 9:40 p.m. On at least one occasion, students will be required to do work off campus.

Text: Statistics (5th ed.) by Robert S. and John S. Witte.

Materials: All of the statistical work that you need to do to complete this course can be done by hand on a simple scientific or statistical calculator. It should cost no more than \$20.00. I use the Texas *Instruments* TI-30Xa which cost me \$8.95. It is more than sufficient for all of my needs. DO NOT OVERSPEND!

You will also need some graphing paper and pencils with erasers.

Objectives: CJ 215 is designed to introduce the basic ideas surrounding criminal justice research. It is a "hands on" class. That means you will learn by doing. By the end of the course, you will understand basic concepts about research methodology, design of surveys and the analysis and presentation of data.

Attendance: Students need to attend all classes as the material will build on itself. If you miss one class, you may be able to catch up with some considerable effort. Take this course some other time if you know you will miss more than one class.

Grading: There will be a quiz nearly every week on assigned chapters in the text. Their cumulative average will represent 50 percent of your grade. The remaining 50 percent is based on your final report to be handed in at the last class. There is no extra credit.

Homework: To prepare for the next phase in the class, it is necessary that you read the upcoming chapter(s) and do the homework even though you won't be handing it in or get any credit for it. This is the type of course in which the more effort you put in, the more you get out. I have designed the tests to make sure you and I are in "sync". It has been my experience that the students who do well in this class do the work at the end of the chapters before the class period. That way the material is reinforced, you and I are both talking about the same thing, and you don't play catch up with the rest of the group.

Class Schedule

Date	Chapter	Topic	Quiz
4/6		Research methods, data, hypotheses	
4/13	1, 2	Survey construction	1
4/20		Surveying (off campus)	2
4/27	4, 5	Frequencies and Variability	4, 5
5/4	3	Cross-tabs and Graphing	3
5/11	14	z scores	14
5/18	18	t test	18
5/25	24	Chi-square	24
6/1	9	Correlation	9
<u>6/8</u>		<u>Final presentation</u>	