PA 709
Silverman
Spring 2018

In this one unit course, we will cover how to use SPSS as more than a simple analysis package.

Because the students will enter the class with disparate backgrounds, the class will not assume that students have used SPSS. However, the expectation is that students with less background will rapidly gain sufficient knowledge to keep up with the rest of the class.

The assignments for the class involve three homework assignments making use of the material covered in class. In the first assignment, students will use code to create variables and run an appropriate analysis and interpret the results. In the second assignment, students will create a data set from scratch, including labeling the variables and values. In the third assignment students will use more complex file management techniques and also use various looping facilities in SPSS.

If there are specific student needs around the preparation or analysis of data, these will be added to the curriculum.

The final project for the class is to find a data set from work, of use in another class or simply a new dataset and make use of some of the material that we have learned in class to prepare the data for analysis and conduct a simple analysis of the data.

There is one textbook (Sarah Boslaugh, **An Intermediate Guide to SPSS Programing.: Using Syntax for Data Management.** Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005) for the class plus some web links. Students may wish to also search online for the large number of SPSS tutorials.

Week One

Using code in SPSS

How to go from menus to code.
The basics of spss syntax.
How to create variables using COMPUTE, IF, COUNT and RECODE

Reading Boslaugh, Chapters 1,2,3,5,6, 21,22,23,24

Week Two

Creating system files, merging files and creating subsets. Variable formats

Reading Boslaugh Chapters 4 8 9 10 11 12 15 17 19

Week three

Using looping and basic scripting facilities on SPSS/changing file structures

Reading Boslaugh Chapters 14 16 25