PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION
The purpose of this course is to develop skills in statistical analysis. It is an introductory statistics course, concerning basic methods applicable to any survey of statistics, particularly to urban studies and public health. The material is organized so that it provides the greatest possible flexibility of use. Focus of the course is on general descriptive and inferential statistics, and students will be introduced to basic methods of data collection, data organization and management, data presentation, and data analysis and description. It includes sampling methods, graphical methods of summarizing data, frequency distribution, numerical summaries, correlation and regression analysis, probability and probability distribution, sampling distribution, estimation, hypothesis testing, and chi-square.

The course has 2 goals: 1) Provide students with skills needed to formulate, evaluate, and communicate conclusions and inferences from quantitative information; and 2) Ensure that students are able to apply effective and efficient mathematical or other formal processes to reason and to solve problems. These goals are reflected in the following 4 objectives of the course:  1) to demonstrate the use of applied statistics for social studies; 2) to give students practical experience with data collection, organization, analysis and presentation; 3) to equip students with skills to analyze and present data using Excel and SPSS; and 4) to help students read professional literature with an appreciation for both its substantive contribution and use of statistical tolls.

REQUIREMENTS
• Studying course materials (Textbook and Chapter Slides)
• Taking two Inter-session Exams and a Cumulative Final Exam

PROCEDURE AND GRADING
• Chapter homework will be given for your practice.
• There are 2 Inter-session Exams.
• There is a Cumulative Final Exam.

Course grade is based on the following ratios:
• Inter-session Exam I  30 %
• Inter-session Exam II  30 %
• Final Exam   40 %

* Your final grade will be assigned using the following letters and total score chart:
A : 90-100
B+: 85-89    B: 80-84
C+: 75-79    C: 70-74
D+: 65-69       D: 60-64
F: 0-59

* Academic integrity is essential to the success of Rutgers community members. For details you may check: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

* There will be no makeup exam / quiz. In rare unfortunate situation such as illness, death in the family, etc. you should inform me of your inability to take the exam / quiz before its deadline. In all cases, you must present proper proof for missing exam / quiz. If I accept your excuse, your score for the final exam will be counted towards the Exam(s) you missed, and your grade for the next quiz will be counted for the missing quiz.

REQUIRED TEXT BOOK

* Course textbook is available at the university bookstore.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS
Salkind, Neil, Statistics for People Who (Think They) Hate Statistics. SAGE: California.
ONLINE SOURCES
There are many online educational sources for Basic Statistical Methods, including videos on YouTube. Some of these sources are listed in the slide presentation of chapters, which are available to you on Sakai.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS
All the assignments you need to do for the course, including homework practice, possible quiz or mini project and exam, will be posted on Sakai, and the Course Schedule will specify their schedule and deadlines.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 (July 6 – July 12)
Chapters One, Two and Three
Introduction – Concept and applications of statistics in social research, the process of social research, examples of current research
Types of data and statistics - Types of data, different levels of measurement, types of statistics and their applications
Fundamentals of research design – Population, sample, unit of analysis, sampling frame, parameter and statistic, variable, independent and dependent variables, control variable, hypothesis
Methods of data collection – Experiment vs. survey, population vs. sample, advantages and limitations of sampling, sampling techniques, data collection techniques, questionnaire design, data collection errors
Methods of data organization - Stem-and-leaf display, frequency distribution, absolute frequency, relative frequency and cumulative frequency distribution
Graphical methods of data presentation – Application of charts (line, bar, pie, pictogram), histogram, polygon
Measures of central tendency and concentration (Averages) - Mean, mode, and median (for single and grouped data), quartiles, outliers
Measures of variation – Range, interquartile range, interquartile deviation, mean deviation, variance, standard deviation (for single and grouped data)
Shape of data distribution and data concentration– boxplot, skewness, Chebyshev's theorem, general rules

Week 2 (July 13 – July 19)
Chapters Three and Four
Measures of variation - Relative standing - Percentile rank, standard unit for relative position
Measures of association, Linear Correlation Analysis – Summarizing relationship between two variables (dependent and independent variables), association vs. causation, Bivariate vs. Multivariate analysis, conditions of linear correlation analysis, scatter plot, coefficient of correlation, coefficient of determination, coefficient of non-determination
Linear Regression Analysis - Introduction to regression analysis, linear regression, least-squares principle, least-squares equation, estimation
Review of materials for upcoming exam
* Inter-session Exam I – Due at 11:00 PM on Sunday July 19th.

Weeks 3 (July 20 – July 26)
Chapters Seven and Eight (exclude chapters 5 and 6)
Normal probability distribution - Properties of normal curve, standard normal curve and standard score (Z), finding proportions between scores, Empirical rules, and normal approximation to the binomial distribution.
Sampling Distribution - Random sampling, distribution of sample means
Central Limit Theorem – Relation between sample and population, sampling error, standard error
Confidence Interval - Estimation using inferential statistics, assumptions and conditions for estimation (Z vs. t), confidence interval for one population mean, one population proportion, comparison of two populations means and proportions
Choosing sample size – Sample size for estimating the mean and proportion

Week 4 (July 27 – August 2)
Chapters Nine
Hypothesis Testing – Introduction to hypothesis testing, steps of hypothesis testing, Z test and t test, hypothesis testing for one population mean, and hypothesis testing for one population proportion, dependent and independent samples, and paired data,
Review of materials for upcoming exam
* Inter-session Exam II – Due at 11:00 PM on Sunday August 2nd.

Week 5 (August 3 – August 9)
Chapter Ten and Eleven
Hypothesis Testing – Hypothesis testing for two population means and two population proportions.
Chi-square Test – Chi-square distribution, logic of the tests of independence and goodness-of-fit, steps of Chi-square test
Inferences for correlation and regression - Testing the significance of correlation coefficient, confidence Interval for prediction of dependent variable

Weeks 6 (August 10 – August 12)
Review of materials for upcoming exam
The final exam is cumulative and will cover all of the materials studied during the semester. However, its concentration will be on the final chapters of the textbook
* Final Exam – Due at 1:00 PM on Wednesday August 12th.