I. CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

Statistical methods as applied to social work, focusing on basic descriptive and inferential statistics and their relationship to social work research. Students are provided with statistical methods and models that are applicable to social work research. Lastly, students are prepared to critically analyze published research and apply statistical principles in their own research. Restricted to social work majors only.

II. COURSE OVERVIEW

This course teaches students to use statistical analysis to understand the interconnection in social work between practice, policy, and research. It prepares students to use data to interpret information about social work clients, programs, and constituencies. It helps students participate in the ongoing organizational practices that use statistics to monitor and evaluate services and their outcomes and understand how agencies use statistical findings to improve practice effectiveness.

III. PLACE OF COURSE IN THE PROGRAM

This course fulfills the statistics requirements for undergraduate majors in Social Work by preparing the students to develop a better understanding of the applicability of statistical methods in their future educational and professional careers.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

Demonstrate mastery in the following competencies:

   Competency 4: Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice
   Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Specifically, they will:

1. Understand the fundamental principles of descriptive and inferential statistics.
2. Become familiar with statistical terminology and notation.
3. Be able to apply basic statistical concepts and arguments as applied to Social Work.
4. Become familiar with basic computer applications used in statistical methods.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

VII. GRADING

(Include grade scale, rubric, points for assignments, bonus, supplemental assignments, and attendance policy and how attendance is factored into final grade).

SIUC policy regarding Incompletes: “An INC grade is assigned when, for reasons beyond their control, students engaged in passing work are unable to complete all class assignments. An INC must be changed to a completed grade within one semester. Should the student fail to complete the course within one semester, the incomplete may be converted to a grade of F and such grade will be computed in the student's grade point average.”

VIII. COURSE EVALUATION

At the end of the semester, students will use the SIUC Instructor Course Evaluation (ICE) to evaluate the course and the instructor. Student mastery of the competencies listed in the Course Objectives section will be evaluated as part of the ongoing program assessment for the School of Social Work.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE

(Instructors provide a weekly list of topics, readings, assignments, and tests)

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Update references to within 5 years for most materials)