

# **GEOGRAPHY 226 F01 2005**

## **INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE METHODS**

Instructor: Dr. Mark Flaherty  
Office: Cornett A209  
Phone: 721-7337

*The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.*

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course is designed to serve as an introduction to the use of quantitative techniques commonly used in geography. The objectives of the course are to provide students with the necessary skills for:

- i) organizing and describing data in an informative way;
- ii) drawing inferences and constructing convincing arguments based on data analysis;
- iii) evaluating arguments based on data analysis that appear in geographical literature.

### **RECOMMENDED READING**

Burt and Barber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. *Elementary Statistics for Geographers*. Guilford Press.

### **COURSE EVALUATION**

The grade for this course will be composed of three parts:

Mid-Term Test	20%
Problem Sets	35%
Final Exam	45%

### **GRADING SCALE**

<b>A+</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>
90-100%	85-89%	80-84%	75-79%	70-74%	65-69%	60-64%	55-59%	50-54%	49% or Less

### **LATE POLICY**

Lab assignments are due at the beginning of the following week's lab. Penalty for assignments handed in late is **10%**. Exceptions will only be granted for medical reasons (requiring a written report from a medical practitioner). Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Thanksgiving : 10 October – No Lecture or Labs

Midterm Test : 17 October

Reading Break : 10 November – No Lecture. 7-10 November – No Labs.

Review (Last Class) 1 December.

## COURSE OUTLINE

1. The Role of Quantitative Methods in Geography
2. Data Sources and Measurement
3. Descriptive Statistics
4. Probability Theory
5. Sampling
6. Hypothesis Testing
7. Nonparametric Statistics
8. Parametric Statistics

## LAB SCHEDULE 2005

<b>Week starting:</b>	<b>Lab Number:</b>
07 September	<b>No Labs</b>
12 September	<b>LAB 0: Orientation and Introduction to SPSS</b>
19 September	<b>LAB 1: Data and Descriptive Statistics</b>
26 September	<b>LAB 2: Probability Distributions</b>
3 October	<b>LAB 3: Sampling Methods</b>
10 October	<b>LAB 4: Statistical Estimation</b>
17 October	<b>LAB 5: Hypothesis Testing</b>
24 October	<b>LAB 6: Non-parametric Tests</b>
31 October	<b>LAB 7: Difference of Means Tests</b>
<b>7 November</b>	No Labs
14 November	<b>LAB 8: Correlation</b>
21 November	<b>LAB 9: Regression Analysis</b>
28 November	<b>Review</b>

**GEOGRAPHY 226 WEBSITE:** <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/geog226/>