Text: “Discovering Statistics Using SPSS 3ed Edition” ... Andy Field

Materials: You should have a thumb drive – suggest you get one dedicated to this class. You will need a simple calculator ... one with ONLY the following functions: add, subtract, multiple, divide and square root. ALWAYS BRING THE CALCULATOR TO CLASS! I’ll be pissed if you don’t have it with you when needed in class.

Class Attendance Policy: I do not take attendance but I expect you to be in class. Exams will emphasize material covered in class. I do not give make-up exams or quizzes.

Grading: I will periodically give short quizzes in class. They will be graded on a pass/fail basis. The primary purpose of these is to make sure that you are keeping abreast of the assigned material. If as a class you are doing well then I will not give you additional exams. If I detect that you are not keeping up with me then I will give the following exams:

Exam 1 ... March 28
Final Exam ... At University scheduled time

Your course grade will depend in part on these exams if they are given. If I do not give the exams, each of you will receive a grade based on your quiz scores. Your total quiz score or you average exam score will be worth 60% of your final grade. Forty percent of your final grade will be based on your class project (see below).

Project: I will describe the project in more detail in class but I am going to pair each of you with a partner (paired at random!). Your task will be to access a US Government data base and explore the data using statistical procedures that we have discussed in class. You will then write a paper (one paper per pair) describing the details of the data base, your statistical analyses, and a justification for those analyses.

Finding Data Sets: Getting started: go to http://Firstgov.gov and type “data” in the search box. There are several good data sources that you might want to explore including NCES, CDC, SAMHSA and HIMH. In some cases you can download data on-line in other cases you will have to ask for a data disk (these are free). You need to find original data sets: not data summaries. You will need to find data sets that can be imported into SPSS or EXCEL. Your analyses must be done using SPSS.
University Policies

"Appalachian State University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Those seeking accommodations based on a substantially limiting disability must contact and register with The Office of Disability Services (ODS) at http://www.ods.appstate.edu/ or 828-262-3056. Once registration is complete, individuals will meet with ODS staff to discuss eligibility and appropriate accommodations."

"As a community of learners at Appalachian State University, we must create an atmosphere of honesty, fairness, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of each other. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of an Appalachian degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form and will oppose any instance of academic dishonesty. This course will follow the provisions of the Academic Integrity Code, which can be found on the Office of Student Conduct Web Site: www.studentconduct.appstate.edu."

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Religious Observance Policy Appalachian State University

1. Students must be allowed a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observances. Students are responsible for requesting excused absences for religious observances required by the faith of a student. Instructors are responsible for complying with this requirement. In classes in which attendance is taken and/or penalties are applied for
student absences, instructors must document their compliance with the religious observance policy by tracking student excused absences for religious observances.

2. For purposes of this policy, the term “religious observances” shall include religious holidays or holy days or similar observances required by a student’s religion and that require absence from class.

3. Students must be afforded the opportunity to make up tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance.

4. Except in extraordinary circumstances, student requests for excused absences for religious observances must be submitted to instructors in writing no later than three weeks after the first class day of the term.”