Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYC 354
STATISTICS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Introduction to the descriptive statistics and probability, probability distributions, estimation, tests of hypotheses, and visual displays of data with applications in psychology and the other social sciences.

RATIONALE
Due to the often highly publicized nature of social science research, it is imperative for the student in the social sciences to have a basic understanding of statistics that aids in the description and interpretation of data at a basic level. This course is designed to give the student a working knowledge of the topics listed above with an emphasis on the application of statistical knowledge rather than the theory. This course will also further equip the student to succeed in upper-level statistics courses within his or her field of study.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Describe the basic concepts of probability and statistics.
B. Analyze psychological data, both by hand and with SPSS.
C. Use critical thinking to solve everyday problems related to behavior and mental processes.
D. Apply statistics within a biblical worldview.
E. Communicate the results of data analysis in appropriate APA format.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS
A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the
   related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (2)
   Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. The student is required to
   create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must
   be at least 300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the
   thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply
   must be at least 100 words.
D. Homework (8)
   Most assignments are SPSS-based and depend on information gained from the
   Reading & Study folder in the assigned module/week.
E. Exams (4)
   Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for 2 modules/weeks. Each
   exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 40 multiple-choice questions, and
   have a 1-hour and 30-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES
A. Points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (2 at 40 pts ea)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework (8 at 65 pts ea)</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Modules 1–2)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (Modules 3–4)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Modules 5–6)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 4 (Modules 7–8)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
   **Total**                          | 1010   |
B. Scale
   A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599
C. Late Assignment Policy
   If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must
   contact the instructor immediately by email.
   Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the
   instructor will receive the following deductions:
1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.

2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.

3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.

4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# Course Schedule

**PSYC 354**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Green &amp; Salkind: lessons 1–2, 5–6, 13 Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 1 2 presentations 1 document</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Homework 1</td>
<td>10 0 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Green &amp; Salkind: lessons 16A/B, 20, 21 (section entitled “Using SPSS Graphs to Display Results – Creating a Histogram” only) Nolan &amp; Heinzen: chs. 2–3 4 presentations</td>
<td>Homework 2 Exam 1</td>
<td>65 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Green &amp; Salkind: lesson 21 (all sections except those pertaining to z-scores) Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 4 2 presentations 2 websites</td>
<td>DB Forum 1 Homework 3</td>
<td>40 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 5 1 presentation</td>
<td>Homework 4 Exam 2</td>
<td>65 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Green &amp; Salkind: lesson 21 (steps 1–4 only) Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 6 2 presentations</td>
<td>Homework 5</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Green &amp; Salkind: lesson 21 (Read the remaining part of the section on creating percentile ranks.) Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 7 3 presentations</td>
<td>Homework 6 Exam 3</td>
<td>65 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nolan &amp; Heinzen: ch. 8 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Homework 7</td>
<td>40 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODULE/ WEEK</td>
<td>READING &amp; STUDY</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENTS</td>
<td>POINTS</td>
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</table>
| 8            | Green & Salkind: lesson 22  
Nolan & Heinzen: ch. 9 (Only read through the section on single-sample t-tests. Stop at “The Paired Samples T-test.”)  
4 presentations | Homework 8  
Exam 4 | 65  
100 |

TOTAL 1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.