II. Course Description: POLI 240 (3-3-0) Introduction to Political Statistics
This course is designed for students to integrate empirical analyses and research methods with the substance of political and social research. Statistical techniques and applications have been chosen for their relevance to political science and policy analysis. This approach should make the study of statistics more meaningful and valuable to those who are uncertain about the role of statistical analysis in the social sciences.

III. Disabled Student Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

IV. Textbooks: (Required):

V. Student Learning Outcomes
Primary Core Student Learning Outcome (Reasoning Skills: Quantitative Reasoning): Students will apply math to situations common in everyday living. They will calculate, interpret, and assess statistical data and concepts, percentages, proportions, rates of change, geometric measures, linear equations, probability and risk.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Identify and explicate the basic statistical concepts of central tendency, measures of variability, and measures of association.
2. Interpret social, economic and political data and their analyses.
3. Explain with clear and concise wording random sampling techniques.
4. Classify different distributions, descriptive and inferential statistical analysis.
5. Evaluate others’ statistical analyses, including sample size, inferential techniques, and findings based upon analysis.
VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

a. Grading Scale

The university grading scale applies as following:

- **A** = 93% - 100% - Exceptionally High
- **B** = 83% - 92% - Good
- **C** = 73% - 82% - Satisfactory
- **D** = 64% - 72% - Marginally Passing
- **F** = 63% or less - Failing

b. Attendance Requirements:

Students are expected to attend the classes punctually. In Case You Are Late or Absent:

i. Official document is required for your absence excuse.

ii. 15 minutes late to class and leaving class 15 minutes earlier will be considered to be absent unless you get prior approval by the instructor.

iii. **NEW TYPE OF GRADE: INTERIM GRADES** – (New name for “midterm grade,” with additional purposes). Interim grades will be assigned from the first week of the semester until the deadline for class withdrawals. Interim grades are used for informational and warning purposes only: they are not part of your permanent transcript and have no effect on your GPA. Instructors may assign interim grade of F to warn students of poor academic performance or they may assign “X” (NO SHOW) or “EA” (EXCESSIVE ABSENCES) grades. After midterm, faculty will assign all students an interim grade of A – F to inform students of their academic status as of midterm.

iv. Children are not permitted in the classroom. Guests must have prior approval by the instructor.

v. It is your responsibility to get the course notes, handouts, and assignments should you miss class or be late;

**WARNING ABOUT CLASS WITHDRAWALS:**

- When you withdraw from a class, you are wasting your money and time. You receive no refund for withdrawing from individual classes and you slow your progress toward degree completion.
- If you withdraw from or fail more than one-third of your classes, you will no longer be eligible for financial aid.
- STRIVE TO EARN CREDIT FOR ALL THE CLASSES IN WHICH YOU ENROLL; WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES ONLY WHEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!

c. Graded Assignments and Value of Each Assignment

Students will be evaluated (graded) as indicated below:

- **Attendance/Participation:** 15%
- **Study Notes:** 15%
- **Exercises/quizzes:** 45%
- **Midterm Examination:** 10%
- **Final Examination:** 15%

There is no “I” (incomplete) grade for this course.

d. Policy on Missed or Late Assignments

Students are expected to take or submit assignments/tests on the date specified on the instructor’s request. The instructor reserves the right to deduct points for late assignment or not to accept late work. There is NO MAKEUP for midterm and final exam.

e. Other

*Cell Phone and Electronic Entertainment Devices*(Read carefully): NO LIVE CELL PHONES are permitted in the classroom (except with prior permission of the instructor). Likewise, no electronic game, CD player or other amusement or entertainment devices are permitted in the classroom. Any student coming to class with a live phone or entertainment devices WILL BE asked to leave the class.
promptly. We want the learning process to be carried out with as little interruptions and distractions as possible.

*No Grade Change for the Class*: unless the grade was submitted to university in error from the instructor. However, you have the right to appeal your grade to university: http://www.uncfsu.edu/plret/FINALfinalpartI1104.pdf (Page 53: Grade Appeal)

*Grade Change and Appeal*: (Read carefully): Please read the grade change policy from FSU: http://www.uncfsu.edu/plret/FINALfinalpartI1104.pdf (Page 53: Changing A Grade)

*Plagiarism/Cheating*: Students are expected to uphold the school’s standard of conduct relating to academic honesty. Students assume full responsibility for the content and integrity shall be that a student’s submitted work, examinations, reports, and projects must be that of the student’s own work. Students shall be guilty of violating the honor code if they: (1) Represent the work of others as their own; (2) Use or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic work; (3) Modify, without instructor approval, an examination, paper, record, or report for the purpose of obtaining additional credit; (4). Give unauthorized assistance to other students; (5). Misrepresent the content of submitted work. The penalty for violating the honor code is severe. Any student violating the honor code is subject to receive a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. If a student is unclear about whether a particular situation may constitute an honor code violation, the student should meet with the instructor to discuss the situation.

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**FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom**

The *Code of the University of North Carolina* (of which FSU is a constituent institution) and the *FSU Code of Student Conduct* affirm that all students have the right to receive instruction without interference from other students who disrupt classes.

FSU Core Curriculum Learning Outcome under Ethics and Civic Engagement (6.03): All students will “prepare themselves for responsible citizenship by fulfilling roles and responsibilities associated with membership in various organizations.” Each classroom is a mini-community. Students learn and demonstrate responsible citizenship by abiding by the rules of classroom behavior and respecting the rights all members of the class.

The FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior (see FSU website for complete policy) identifies the following behaviors as disruptive:

1. Failure to respect the rights of other students to express their viewpoints by behaviors such as repeatedly interrupting others while they speak, using profanity and/or disrespectful names or labels for others, ridiculing others for their viewpoints, and other similar behaviors;
2. Excessive talking to other students while the faculty member or other students are presenting information or expressing their viewpoints;
3. Use of cell phones and other electronic devices
4. Overt inattentiveness (sleeping, reading newspapers)
5. Eating in class (except as permitted by the faculty member)
6. Threats or statements that jeopardize the safety of the student and others
7. Failure to follow reasonable requests of faculty members
8. Entering class late or leaving class early on regular basis
9. Others as specified by the instructor.

The instructor may take the following actions in response to disruptive behavior. Students should recognize that refusing to comply with reasonable requests from the faculty member is another incidence of disruptive behavior.

1. Direct student to cease disruptive behavior.
2. Direct student to change seating locations.
3. Require student to have individual conference with faculty member. At his meeting the faculty member will explain the consequences of continued disruptive behavior.
4. Dismiss class for the remainder of the period. (Must be reported to department chair.)
5. Lower the student’s final exam by a maximum of one-letter grade.
6. File a complaint with the Dean of Students for more severe disciplinary action.

Students who believe the faculty member has unfairly applied the policy to them may make an appeal with the faculty member, and in the event of a dispute, with the department chair.
VII. Academic Support Resources

Blackboard: [http://blackboard.uncfsu.edu/](http://blackboard.uncfsu.edu/)
Websites of Instructor: [http://www.uncfsu.edu/ghp/Personnel/lheem.htm](http://www.uncfsu.edu/ghp/Personnel/lheem.htm)
Smarthinking Student Site: [http://www.smarthinking.com/](http://www.smarthinking.com/)

VIII. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

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<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>Statistics Basics and Probability</td>
<td>Chapter 1&amp;2</td>
<td>Chapter Test: Chapter 1-3</td>
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<td>InClass Assignment: Discussion Paper</td>
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<td>Descriptive Statistics and Data Visualization</td>
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<td>Sampling and Limit Theorems</td>
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<td>Statistics and Research Ethics</td>
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<td>Measurement</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>Comprehensive Exam &amp; Midterm Review</td>
<td>Chapter 4-7</td>
<td>InClass Assignment: Discussion Paper</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
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<td>Study Note #1: Chapter 15, 16 and 17 (Requirement will be discussed in class and posted to blackboard)</td>
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<td>Chapter 8 &amp; 10</td>
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<td>Subject: Constructing each individual data set and analysis</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Multivariate Analyses and Regression Models</td>
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<td>Study Note #2 DUE WEEK</td>
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<td>Inferential Statistics: Estimation and Hypothesis Testing</td>
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<td>Final Reports</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Final</td>
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Please complete and submit to instructor during the first class session.

Course Syllabus
Acknowledgement Form
Student’s Name: ___________________________________________________
(Please print)

I have read and understand the terms, explanations and expectations as set for in this syllabus as presented by the Professor for this class.

Furthermore, I understand the attendance and tardy policies.

Course Title and #: ______________________________________________
Student’s Signature: _____________________________________________
Email Address: ___________________________________________________
Student’s Phone Number(s): ________________________________________