Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>180 h</td>
<td>60.0 h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 1) Dutch

- Lecture: 25.0 h
- Guided self-study: 5.0 h
- Seminar: coached exercises 30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Lievens, John PS04 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>A</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Communication Science</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Political Science</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Sociology</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Communication Science (main subject Communication Management)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Communication Science (main subject Film and Television Studies)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Communication Science (main subject Journalism)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Communication Science (main subject New Media and Society)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparatory Course Master of Science in Communication Science (main subject Communication Management)</td>
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</table>

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Statistics in the social sciences, applied statistics, quantitative methods, descriptive statistics, inductive (inferential) statistics

Position of the course

This course offers an introduction to the basic principles of statistics in the social sciences. Quantitative research is one of the main tools a social scientist has to observe society. Population and survey data provide insight into social phenomena, trends and social change. Descriptive statistics offers tools to synthesize large quantities of information in a systematic and scientifically sound manner. Inductive statistics provide the method to draw conclusions about an entire population out of data acquired from a (correctly drawn) sample. The main objective of this course is to train students to become informed and critical users of simple statistical techniques. The knowledge, insights and skills acquired here will serve, in the coming years, as a basis for further learning of more advanced statistical techniques and models.

(Approved)
Introduction
- Statistics in social science
- Measuring, statistical units, variables, measurement levels, data matrix

Descriptive statistics
- Description of univariate distributions: frequency distributions, graphical representations, measures for centrality, dispersion and form
- Theoretical distributions, normal distribution
- Description of the association between two variables, bivariate statistics: cross tabulation, scatterplots, measures of association, correlation and regression analysis
- Statistical control: relationships between more than two variables

Inferential statistics
- Theoretical distributions: normal and binomial distribution
- Chance, probability, chance models, expectation and variance of stochastic variables
- Sample variability, sampling distribution
- Confidence intervals and significance tests for counts, proportions, means and the association between two variables.

Initial competences
Recommended Learning outcomes secondary education. Four hours of maths in the final years of secondary education provides a sufficient starting level. A website with the required prior knowledge of mathematics is available enabling students with insufficient mathematical skills to update their knowledge.

Final competences
1. To have insight in the possibilities and limitations of quantitative analyses for social-scientific research.
2. To understand and to be able to correctly interpret and critically assess published statistical analyses.
3. To be able to make a well-considered choice from the different statistical techniques in order to answer a scientific research question in a solid, sound manner.
4. To be able to correctly calculate and interpret statistical measures.
5. To recognize the advantages and the limitations of the different statistical measures.
6. To become a critical and responsible user of statistics.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture, seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods

Learning materials and price
Estimated cost: 20 euro

References

Course content-related study coaching
- e-learning through Minerva: FAQ, interactive exercises, interactive demonstrations, examples of exams, prior knowledge of mathematics
- Individual guidance during office hours
- Support from the Faculty’s Tutoring Service (Monitoraat)

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

(Approved)
Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods
- Emphasis lies on insight- and application-focused questions

Calculation of the examination mark
- Periodic evaluation (100%)

Facilities for Working Students
- 1. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time.
- 2. Alternative time for feedback is possible.