UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Multivariate Data Analysis

2122-1-F5104P001

Learning area

Techniques and methodologies for psychosocial research

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- Statistics for correlation data
- Statistics for experimental data
- Simple and complex relationships among different types of variables
- Basics of measurement in psychology
- Psychological measures properties

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Ability to analyze data collected in different research designs
- Understanding and evaluating third-party statistics and their quality
- Estimating and understanding simple and complex relationships among variables.

- Employing and evaluating different types of psychological measures
- Mastering of SPSS software

Contents

An overview of several statistical techniques and methodological concepts is provided, giving the student the ability to collect and analyze data in a wide range of research situations. Univariate and multivariate statistical techniques are presented, with emphasis on the interpretation of results. Fundamental concepts related with measurement in psychology are also discussed.

Detailed program

Class activities

- Statistical models and inferential statistics
- The general linear model
- Mediation and moderation
- Statistics for repeated-measures designs
- Generalized linear model
- Measurement theory
- Implicit and explicit measures
- Validity and reliability
- Factor analysis

Practice Labs

Practice with SPSS statistical software and hands-on exercises with real data.

Prerequisites

Descriptives statistics (measures of central tendency and dispersion); Basics of inferential statistics; regression and correlation; t-test

Teaching methods

Theoretical and practical classes. In the theoretical lessons the foundations of the statistical techniques are presented and discussed, their applicability, with special focus on the interpretation of the results. Using

several examples found in the psychological literature, students with different mathematical backgrounds should be able to understand what is needed to carry out and interpreting the statistical analyses discussed in the course.

Practice sections in the computer labs with analyses of real data and discussion.

Although this course is held in Italian, for Erasmus students, the course material is available also in English, and students can take the exam in English if they wish to do so.

Lessons will be held in presence unless further COVID-19 related restrictions are imposed.

Assessment methods

Written final test with multiple-choice questions and open-end questions based on data analyses. Optional oral exam. Multiple-choice questions will assess particularly the understanding of the theoretical models underlying psychometric measurement and data analysis techniques. Open-ended questions will assess the ability to apply this knowledge for developing research projects and for analyzing data. The possibility of an oral exam is offered to students who consider that the result of the exam does not reflect their real competence and it will assess both theoretical knowledge and practical abilities.

Students will also have the possibility to take simulation test, equivalent to the final test . The aim of the simulation is to acquaint students to the test environment and to give them feedback before the take the exam.

During the Covid-19 emergency, exams will be conducted according to the University's regulations regarding the COVID-19 emergency situation.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

textbook: Gallucci, M. Leone L Berlingeri, M (2017). Modelli statistiche per le scienze sociali. Milano: Pearson Education.

In addition to the textbook, learning materials is available on the course page in the elearning platform