SYLLABUS – SPRING 2006

HS 267: Computational Public Health Statistics

San Jose State University
Department of Health Science

DESCRIPTION: Concepts and techniques in public health statistics, data analysis, study design, and data management.

PREREQUISITE: HS 167 or equivalent.

Website:	www.sjsu.edu/compstat
Class:	The class meets Thursdays from 15:00 – 17:45 in the CASA computer lab MH 321.
Final Exam:	Tuesday, May 23, 2006, 14:45 – 17:00. Set by the Schedule of Classes.
Instructor:	Jane Pham Email: janetgpham@yahoo.com , jtgpham@ucdavis.edu Office: MH 439 Phone: (408) 924-7482 Office Hours: Thursdays 14:00 – 15:00 (the hour before class) Fridays by appointment
Required materials:	Gerstman, B.B. (2006). HS267 Lab Workbook. Available from Spartan Bookstore. Rosner, B. (2005). Fundamentals of Biostatistics, 6th edition. Available from Spartan Bookstore. TI-30XIIS calculator College of Applied Sciences and Arts computer account (sign up during first lab).
Recommended materials:	EpiData (www.epidata.dk) WinPepi (http://www.brixtonhealth.com/pepi4windows.html) SPSS version 11 or higher (available in the computer lab). StaTable probability calculator (http://www.cytel.com/Products/StaTable/Default.asp)
Calendar / topics:	A tentative course calendar with topics, due dates, exam dates, is posted on www.sjsu.edu/compstat . Dates are subject to change with fair notice. The homepage is part of the syllabus.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify principles of measurement and study design with applications to public health studies.
2. Demonstrate reliable data management and analysis using EpiData, SPSS, and other statistical software.
3. Explore and describe data using summary statistics, frequency tables, and exploratory plots.
4. Calculate and interpret confidence intervals and tests in comparing means, variances, risks, and correlation and regression coefficients.
5. Identify appropriateness of statistical methods based on validity and distributional assumptions.
6. Apply atleast two statistical methods in examples drawn from health education practice.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES:

Your course grade is based on a weighted average of:

Homework Assignments (25%) – Assignments are in the form of exercise sets, case studies, and narrative reports.

Lab Workbook (5%) – Your lab workbook will be collected for grading once during the midterm period and once during the final exam. Grading is based on completeness.

Midterm (30%) – There is one midterm. The format for the midterm includes: multiple choice questions, short answers, analytic problems, and brief essays.

Final exam (40%) – There is a 2¼ hour cumulative final. The date of the final is determined by the Schedule of Classes. The final includes short answer questions, analytic problems, and brief essays.

Grade cutoffs are as follows:

100–97% A+	89–87% B+	79–77% C+	69–67% D+	Below 60% F
96–93% A	86–83% B	76–73% C	66–63% D	
92–90% A-	82–80% B-	72–70% C-	62–60% D-	

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all you academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the DRC to establish a record of disability.

HOMEWORK POLICIES:

1. **Collaboration versus plagiarism**: Collaboration is allowed on Lab Work and on odd numbered exercises only. Collaboration is NOT allowed on selected HW problems that will be submitted for grading. The instructor will make clear which problems allow and do not allow collaboration. In general, odd-numbered HW problems allow collaboration and even-numbered problems do not allow collaboration. We adhere to the SJSU academic integrity policy.
2. **Homework is due at 3:00 each Thursday**. No late papers please. Results should conform to APA Publication Guidelines for text and numbers whenever possible. Use judgment when reporting results. I am unable to accept faxed or emailed assignments without prior permission. In the event of an emergency, contact me before class to arrange alternative form of delivery.
3. I encourage you to submit questions about exercises to the group by means of the **electronic bulletin board**. Use descriptive subject lines when submitting questions. Form threads when responding to specific questions.