Department: Sociology

Course No: SOCI 207Q

Title: Quantitative Methods in Social Research

Credits: 3

Contact: Brad Wright

WQ: Q

Catalog Copy: Sociology 207Q. Quantitative Methods in Social Research. Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: SOCI 205 or instructor consent; and STAT 100 or 110. Bernstein, Wallace, Weakliem. Practical work in the design and execution of research, hypothesis testing, data analysis, and interpretation.

Course Information: The goal is to teach students the basic methods of quantitative research in sociology. It includes both discussion of theoretical concepts and analysis of real data. Major topics include descriptive statistics and basic correlation and regression. Requirements include midterms and final with problems involving calculation and interpretation of statistical information, plus several written exercises involving the analysis of real data and interpretation of results.

Q Criteria: The quantitative content is an integral part of the course. The course requires the calculation and interpretation of measures of association between variables, which uses skills from algebra, particularly functions and linear equations. Although it makes use of computers, the focus is on the interpretation of the results rather than the mechanics of computation.

Role of Grad Students: No graduate assistants are currently used. In the future, graduate assistants may be used to supervise computer lab sessions and help with grading. If this is done, they will be selected based on skills with quantitative material and will be trained and closely supervised by the instructor. The primary instructor will always be a regular faculty member.