The purpose of this course is to introduce graduate students to the elements of data analysis. We will cover basic statistical techniques as well as how to conduct data analysis on the computer. The pre-requisite for this course is Methods of Political Science (211-217), or its equivalent.

**Topics and Required Readings**

**Part I - Philosophy of Data Analysis**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 1.

**Part II - Frequency Distributions, Univariate Measures, and Graphical Displays**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 2, 3, 4, 5
Assignment: p. 56 (Q4a, c, d), p. 127 (Q2a, Q2b, Q4a-Q4f), p. 130 (Q6a for 2003, also compute median, and standard deviation for 2003 data).

**Part III - Measures of Association v. Tests of Significance**

**Part IV, Uses of the Normal Curve**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 9, 10

**Part V, Differences of Means and Proportions**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 11, 12
Assignment: p. 399 (Q4a-q4c), p. 436 (Q2, Q3).

**Part VI, Nominal Scales**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 6, 7, 13
Assignment: p. 462 (Q1a-Q1d), p. 218 (Q3a-q3c, also compute Chi Square, Lambda, and Cramer’s V; interpret all results)

**Part VII, Correlation and Simple Regression**
Frankfort-Nachmias, Ch 8
Assignment: p. 304 (5a-5d).
Part VII, Conclusions


**Required Texts**


Recommended: SPSS Base 15.0 User’s Guide.

**Grades**

(1) homework assignments and computer projects. Students are required to conduct and analyze five separate computational and computer assignments.

(2) an examination.

**The Data**

We will be using as our data source the National Opinion Research Center's General Social Survey (NORC-GSS). The NORC-GSS data set consists of 40,000 cases and more than 1,000 variables. The NORC-GSS has been carried out in almost every year since 1973. Data from one year is available with the Frankfort-Nachmias book.