Course Overview
Psychology 2030 is intended as a gentle introduction to the scientific methods and statistical techniques commonly used in psychological research. The course will introduce students to basic descriptive and inferential statistics commonly used in psychological research, such as means, medians, modes, measures of variability, correlation, linear regression, the binomial distribution, the central limit theorem, the chi-square distribution, the t-test distribution, and the logic of analysis of variance. Issues to consider when conducting, reading about, and evaluating psychological research will also receive attention.

Lecture Notes
There is no required "textbook" for the course. Instead, a set of "lecture notes" will be used. The "lecture notes" are summaries of the lecture material written by John R. Vokey and Scott W. Allen, and are titled Thinking With Data. They will be followed quite closely for the statistical component of the course, to ensure consistency with other recent offerings of Psychology 2030. They are available at the cost of printing and distribution from the bookstore. The latest version is always on the web also, at: http://people.uleth.ca/~vokey/pdf/thinking.pdf

Evaluation
Evaluation will consist of:

- A midterm worth 45% of your final grade
- A final exam worth 45% of your final grade
- A written assignment worth 10% of your final grade → Details to be handed out and discussed during the first week of classes.

The exams (midterm and final) will consist of "in-class" components, worth 50% of the exam grades, and "out-of-class WebCT" components, worth 50% of the exam grades. The “in class components” will be open book, and will consist of problems similar to those demonstrated in class and in the lecture notes. The “out of class WebCT components” will be closed book, and will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions that will test understanding of statistical theory and research methods material. The WebCT components must be written in the WebCT testing center. Please see below for specifics about this centre.

- The "in-class" component of the midterm will be tentatively written on Thursday, February 16th.
- The "out-of-class WebCT" component of the midterm can be tentatively written on any date, from Monday, February 13th to Sunday, February 19th, inclusive, in the WebCT testing center.
- The "in-class" component of the final exam will be written on the Registrar Scheduled exam date – Monday, April 24\textsuperscript{th}, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- The "out-of-class WebCT" component of the final exam can be tentatively written on any date, from Tuesday, April 18\textsuperscript{th} to Tuesday, April 25\textsuperscript{th}, inclusive, in the WebCT testing centre.

Please note that the above noted exam dates are tentative, and will be confirmed in the first class.

The written assignment is due at the beginning of class on Thursday, March 30\textsuperscript{th}.

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WebCT Testing Centre

- Located in B-770
- Tentative Hours:
  - Monday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
  - Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - Saturday, 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.
  - Sunday, 12:00 noon to 10:00 p.m.
  - Holidays: 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.
- Check:  http://www.uleth.ca/crdc/webct/Testing_center_howto.cfm

The WebCT testing centre operates on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are a limited number of computers in it, and it is used by many classes. It is thus highly recommended that the exams be written early, and not left until the last day.

Students can not take books into the WebCT testing centre. Students must have picture ID for admission to the centre (student ID card). Students can take writing tools into the centre.
(pens or pencils), and a blank piece of paper if desired. Used paper must be left with the proctor when leaving the centre, though.

Students should familiarize themselves with WebCT function before showing up at the test centre. All students will have access to the course WebCT space, at http://webct.uleth.ca. This can be logged onto with U of L email usernames and passwords. Practice quizzes or study questions will be posted to WebCT throughout the semester. Doing the practice quizzes and looking at the study questions as they are posted should be helpful with developing required familiarity with WebCT.

Calculator
A good hand-calculator will prove useful for the course. At a minimum (beyond the standard arithmetical functions), the calculator must have a square-root function. More sophisticated functions, such as summation, factorial, permutations and combinations, standard deviation, correlation, etc., may prove useful, but are not essential.

Course Web Sites and Links
The course WebCT site is located at http://webCT.uleth.ca. From here, you will be able to use the course chat rooms and access practice quizzes and study questions for the course. The WebCT site will be updated throughout the semester with related links, practice quizzes, and/or study questions. So please be sure to check for these “treats” throughout the semester.

Some links to some fun statistics-related jokes and other statistics-related material are accessible from the following website: http://classes.uleth.ca/200503/psyc2030a Students might be interested in looking at these.

Suggested Problems and Help Sessions
From time to time during the semester, the instructor will suggest questions for you to try from the Vokey/Allen lecture notes. You are encouraged to attempt all other questions in the Vokey/Allen lecture notes, too. Out-of-class help sessions will be held from time to time during the semester. In these sessions, solutions for some of the suggested questions will be demonstrated. Please feel free to seek individual help throughout the semester, also.

A Final Note
Statistics are used in many places in the world, and can be kind of interesting to play with and learn about. I truly hope all students find something enjoyable in this course, and look forward to working with students during it!