General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: **SOCI 15: Statistical Applications in the Social Sciences**
GE Area: B4

Results reported for AY **2016-2017**

# of sections: **3**
# of instructors: **3**

Course Coordinator: **Peter Chua (interim)**
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Department Chair: **Dr. Carlos Garcia**
College: Social Sciences

**Instructions**: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be **electronically submitted to <curriculum@sjsu.edu>**, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by October 1 of the following academic year.

**Part 1**

To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) **What GELO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?**

Instructors assessed GELO2, examining students’ ability to solve real life problems using mathematics. Pre-test and post-test with ten questions were administered to determine how well student improved in solving real-life problems involving probabilities and descriptive and inferential statistics. For examples, students were given questions to find solutions involving the following: distribution of text messages, gender differences in work hours, attitude on abortion, relationship between income and abusive marriage, and relationship between grades and hours playing video game.

(2) **What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?**

**GELO 2:**

- Comparing pre-test and post-test results, student scores went up an average of 3.28 out of 10 points.
- In addition, 44.9% mastered GELO 2 at high level, 26.5% mastered GELO 2 at average level, and 12.2% failed to master GELO 2

Lesson learned included:
- While students are able to solve basic real-world problems, students need also to demonstrate that they can formulate appropriate hypothesis to test statistical inferences and interpret results of these tests.
- Students need also to show that they can use real-world dataset (with many variables and cases) to find appropriate descriptive patterns in the dataset and to make inferential analysis to aid in making useful social policy decisions.
(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

SOCI 15 instructors will be recommended to place greater emphasis in analyzing real-world datasets in homework to give students the experience of using statistics to address seemingly complicated relationship between many social-science variables. In addition, brief in-class activities are needed to promote creative-thinking skills to solve a variety of real-world problems.

Part 2

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (GELOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

Yes

(5) If this course is in a GE Area with a stated enrollment limit (Areas A1, A2, A3, C2, D1, R, S, V, & Z), please indicate how oral presentations will be evaluated with larger sections (Area A1), or how practice and revisions in writing will be addressed with larger sections, particularly how students are receiving thorough feedback on the writing which accounts for the minimum word count in this GE category (Areas A2, A3, C2, D1, R, S, V, & Z) and, for the writing intensive courses (A2, A3, and Z), documentation that the students are meeting the GE GELOs for writing.

Not Applicable