

LSP 121
Mathematical and Technological Literacy II
Fall 2012

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Course Description

In this course, students will continue the study of issues in the sciences, social sciences, and management in which quantitative data plays a significant role. This second course in MTL, however, will emphasize more the role of computer technology. Extensive use will be made of computer tools such as Access, SPSS Statistics and programming environments.

Required Materials

Please bring a flash disk (thumb drive) to every class. Label with your name and e-mail address in case it becomes misplaced.

Textbook: none

Prerequisites: ISP/LSP 120

LSP 121 is a Liberal Studies requirement for freshman and transfer students that entered DePaul University on or after the Autumn quarter 2006. When taking LSP 121, you may “reduce by one the number of courses they must take to meet their Learning Domain Area requirements. This course reduction can come from any one of the six Learning Domains, as long as the student still takes at least one course from each Domain and as long as the student still completes the laboratory and quantitative requirements in the Scientific Inquiry area.”

If you feel you already know the materials presented in this course, there is a placement exam you may take. You must take this exam within the first week of classes to waive the course this quarter. If you pass this exam, you will be waived from taking this course. Consult the grc.depaul.edu website for more details.

Grading Scale:**Point Scale:**

368 – 400	A
360 – 367	A-
352 - 359	B+
328 - 351	B
320 - 327	B-
312 - 319	C+
288 - 311	C
280 – 287	C-
272 - 279	D+
248 - 271	D
236 - 247	D-
0 - 235	F

Objectives of course:

This Mathematical and Technological Literacy course is designed to help you to become a more confident, critical, and capable user of quantitative information of all kinds. In particular, it will help you to

- continue to critique quantitative arguments, whether given numerically, graphically, or in written form
- manipulate data via the creation and use of relational databases
- become acquainted with basic descriptive statistics and probability
- understand the basic concepts of algorithm creation

Grade Breakdown:

In-class activities	100 points
• 10 @ 10 points each	
Midterm exam 10/3	100 points
Final exam 11/19	100 points
Homework assignments	90 points
• 9 @ 10points each	
Discussions	10 points
• 2@ 5 points each	
Total	400 points

An expanded description of each follows:

Final Exam – An in-class final exam must be taken in order to receive a grade in the course. If you cannot take the exam due to illness or family emergency, you must inform me in advance by phone or email. In such situations, you will typically receive an incomplete grade in the course, and we will make arrangements for you take the final exam as soon as possible the next term.

Midterm Exam – An in-class midterm examination will be given during class. There are no makeup exams in this course. **If you cannot take an exam due to illness or family emergency, you must inform me in advance by phone or email.**

The combined average of the midterm and final exams must be a passing grade in order to pass this course (this is to ensure that you are capable of doing some work on your own).

Homework Assignments - Many weeks there will be an assignment to be done outside of class. Their purpose is to give you individual out of class practice on the skills we are learning and to explore some ideas more thoughtfully and deeply. The assignments are posted on the course web page and will be handed out in class. **Homework assignments must be done individually and are due by the due date posted in D2L. Homework assignments more than one week late will not be accepted**

In-class Activities - Class attendance and participation are important. Most of the class time will be spent working on exploratory activities that embody a "learn by doing" approach. If you don't complete an activity for a given day (and a new activity is scheduled to be introduced next class period), you have until the end of the next class period from which the activity was handed out to submit the activity for credit. **Activities more than one week late will not be accepted.**

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete are given only in cases of medical emergency or other highly unusual emergency situations. Please note that University guidelines require that you must be earning a passing grade at the time you request an incomplete grade. You should have completed most of the course, with at most one or two major forms of evaluation missing. Incompletes revert to an F if they are not resolved within one quarter. If such a situation should occur, please inform me as soon as possible.

Class Attendance

While attendance will not be a percentage of your final grade, your attendance will be monitored.

Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity, particularly plagiarism, are not tolerated. Plagiarism is defined by the university as:

“..a major form of academic dishonesty involving the presentation of the work of another as one's own. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to the following:

a. The direct copying of any source, such as written and verbal material, computer files, audio disks, video programs or musical scores, whether published or unpublished, in whole or part, without proper acknowledgement that it is someone else's.

b. Copying of any source in whole or part with only minor changes in wording or syntax, even with acknowledgement.

c. Submitting as one's own work a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report or other assignment that has been prepared by someone else. This includes research papers purchased from any other person or agency.

d. The paraphrasing of another's work or ideas without proper acknowledgement.

Plagiarism, like other forms of academic dishonesty, is always a serious matter. If an instructor finds that a student has plagiarized, the appropriate penalty is at the instructor's discretion. Actions taken by the instructor do not preclude the college or the university from taking further punitive action including dismissal from the university” (DePaul Student Handbook).

University policies on academic integrity will be strictly adhered to. Consult the DePaul University Student for further details.

As a courtesy to the other students and the instructor: If you must keep your cell phone on, *please* turn the ringer off and set the phone in front of you, or place cell phone on vibrate mode.

Tentative Weekly Schedule - *This schedule can change without notice*

Week 1: Introduction to Databases

- Activity due 9/8

Week 2: Database Queries

- Activity and Homework due 9/15
- Discussion 1 (D1) due 9/15

Week 3: Database Forms and Reports

- Activity and Homework due 9/22

Week 4: Database Switchboard

- Activity due 9/29

Week 5: Normal Distribution & SPSS

Midterm Exam 10/3

- Homework due 10/6

Week 6: SPSS

- Activity and Homework due 10/13

Week 7: Correlation

- Activity and Homework due 10/20

Week 8: Probability

- Activity and Homework due 10/27
- Discussion 2 (D2) due 10/27

Week 9: Computers, Algorithms and Flowcharts

- Activity and Homework due 11/3

Week 10: Introduction to Visual Basic.Net

- Activity and Homework due 11/10

Week 11: Visual Basic.Net Calculations

- Activity and Homework 11/17

Final Exam

- 11/19