

# **PSC 203: Survey Research Methods**

---

Fall 2012

Lecture: 2:00-3:15, Monday and Wednesday, Harkness 114

Course website: <http://www.rochester.edu/College/faculty/mperess/srm2012.html>

**Prof. Michael Peress**

[mperess@mail.rochester.edu](mailto:mperess@mail.rochester.edu)

Harkness 326

OH: MW 3:30-4:15

Overview: This course offers an introduction to the understanding of politics through data analysis, with particular emphasis on surveys of the mass public. We will study selecting a sample, designing and conducting a survey, interpreting the results of a survey, correcting for bias in a survey, and measuring the accuracy of a survey.

## Recommended Books:

The following books will be on reserve in the library.

- [1] Agresti, Alan, and Barbara Finlay (1997). *Statistical Methods for the Social Sciences*.
- [2] Groves, Robert M., Floyd J. Fowler, Jr., Mick P. Couper, James M. Lepkowski, Eleanor Singer, and Roger Tourangeau (2004). *Survey Methodology*.
- [3] Pollock, Phillip H., III (2005). *An SPSS Companion to Political Analysis*.
- [4] Weisberg, Herbert F., Jon A. Krosnick, and Bruce D. Bowen (1989). *An Introduction to Survey Research and Data Analysis*.

I would recommend purchasing a used version of the older

Presentations may be based on a reading I have assigned or one of the data analysis projects. If you like however, you may present more than once in order to build up extra class participation credit.

Exam: There will be one exam about two-thirds of the way through the class which will cover basic data analysis and survey analysis.

Grading: Grades will be based on the exam (25%), the data analysis assignments (25%), the final project (25%), and class participation (25%).