

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**CPSE 730 and IP&T 730**  
**Spring Term, 2018**

**INSTRUCTORS:**

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**CLASS MEETING SCHEDULE:**

M &W, 9:00-11:50

112 Kimball Tower

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Heck, R.H., Thomas, S., & Tabata, L. (2014). *Multilevel and longitudinal modeling with IBM SPSS* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0-415-81711-0

Course Packet Available at the BYU Bookstore

**EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a result of successfully completing this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. Explain the similarities and differences between ordinary least squares regression and multilevel regression in terms of (a) the kinds of data structures that can be most appropriately be analyzed by each, (b) the kinds of research questions that can be addressed by each, (c) the main features that distinguish between single-level and multilevel models, and (d) the likely consequences of using each approach when the other would be more appropriate.
2. Understand the basic concepts and notational conventions used in multilevel modeling (e.g., nested units of analysis and within-level dependencies; estimated intercept and slope parameters and residuals; within-group versus between-group variance; intraclass correlation coefficients; conditional versus unconditional models; fixed versus random model components; within-level versus cross-level interactions; cross-sectional versus longitudinal designs; time-varying versus time invariant predictors; growth trajectories; etc).
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using multilevel software to analyze hierarchically structured data including (a) preparing the data files, (b) generating the input commands, (c) executing analyses, and (d) interpreting and evaluating the output.
4. Apply appropriate strategies to analyze hierarchically structured data sets by building and testing alternative models.
5. Summarize, interpret, and critique written reports of completed multilevel studies completed by other researchers.

## SOFTWARE

The use of Multilevel/Hierarchical Modeling techniques is not feasible or practical without modern computers and software. General purpose statistics packages such as *SAS*, *SPSS*, and *Stata* each include specific procedures and routines that can be used to perform multilevel analyses. In addition, more specialized programs such as *HLM*, *Mplus*, and *MLWin* can also be used for this purpose. However, in this class we will focus on learning to use *SPSS* to conduct multilevel analyses. Each student is expected to become proficient in using *SPSS*. The course textbook includes relevant guidelines and examples. However, we will demonstrate and compare three different software packages.

The topics to be taught in this course include:

1. The nature of hierarchical data structures and the meaning of nesting
2. The disadvantages of using Ordinary Least Squares regression models to analyze hierarchical data and the advantages of multilevel modeling
3. Preparing data files for multilevel analysis
4. Basic concepts and notational symbols used in multilevel models with two levels
5. Analyzing two-level models using Stata
6. Checking assumptions and assessing model-data fit
7. Strategies for building and testing alternative models
8. Analyzing models with three levels
9. Issues to consider when designing multilevel studies
10. Using multilevel models to analyze longitudinal data
11. Alternative covariance structures
- 12.

Session	Date	Readings	Topic	Homework
1 W	5/2	HT&T Chapters 1 & 2	Bridge & Introduction	
2 M	5/7	HT&T Chapter 3	2-level Cross-sectional Modeling	
3 W	5/9	HT&T Chapter 3	2-level Cross-sectional Modeling	
4 M	5/14	HT&T Chapter 3	2-Level Cross-sectional Modeling Software Variations	
5 W	5/16	HT&T Chapter 4	3-level Cross-sectional Modeling	
6 M	5/21	HT&T Chapter 4	3-level Cross-sectional Modeling	
7 W	5/23	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam	
Monday	5/28	Memorial Day	Memorial Day	
8 W	5/30	Review Midterm	Begin Longitudinal Modeling	
9 M	6/4	HT&T Chapter 5	Longitudinal Modeling	
10 W	6/6	HT&T Chapter 5	Longitudinal Modeling	
11 M	6/11	HT&T Chapter 5	Longitudinal Modeling	
12 W	6/13	Cushion		
13 M	6/18	Prep Final	Prep Final	
W Final Exam	6/20 9:00- 11:00	Final Exam	Final Exam	

## **GRADING POLICY**

Grades will be allocated based on students' performance on the homework exercises (20%), the two examinations (40%), and the two projects (40%).

## **COURSE PROJECTS**

Each student is expected to successfully complete two projects:

1. Prepare a written summary-review of a published journal article reporting the results of a research study that used MLM. The report should include a description of the purpose and context of the study plus your analysis and critique of how well multilevel modeling techniques were used in this study.
2. Analyze a multilevel data set and write a report describing the purpose for which the study was conducted, how the data were collected and analyzed, and the findings and results of the study.

## **BYU POLICIES**

### **Academic Honesty**

The first injunction of the BYU Honor Code is the call to be honest. Students come to the university not only to improve their minds, gain knowledge, and develop skills that will assist them in their life's work, but also to build character. President David O. McKay taught that "character is the highest aim of education" (The Aims of a BYU Education, p. 6). It is the purpose of the BYU Academic Honesty Policy to assist in fulfilling that aim. BYU students should seek to be totally honest in their dealings with others. They should complete their own work and be evaluated based upon that work. They should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including but not limited to plagiarism, fabrication or falsification, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

### **BYU Honor Code**

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university. Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working environment. It is the university's expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

### **Preventing Sexual Harassment**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in

programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the university, but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 422-2847.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (422-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SSD Office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures by contacting the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-285 ASB.

## **PUBLISHED TUTORIALS, PRIMERS, OVERVIEWS, AND OTHER INTRODUCTORY ARTICLES**

- Atkins, D.C. (2005). Using multilevel models to analyze couple and family treatment data: Basic and advanced issues. *Journal of Family Psychology, 19*, 98-110.
- Arnold, C.L. (1992). An introduction to hierarchical linear models. *Measurement and Evaluation in Counseling and Development, 25*, 58-90.
- Ferron, J.M., Hogarty, K. Y., Dedrick, R.F., Hess, M.R., Niles, J.D. & Kromrey, J.D. (2008). Reporting results from multilevel analyses. In A.A. O'Connell & D.B. McCoach (Eds.), *Multilevel modeling of educational data* (pp. 391-426). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Garson, G.D. (2013). *Hierarchical linear modeling: Guide and applications*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Harlow, L.L. (2014). *The essence of multivariate thinking: Basic themes and methods* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Routledge. [See chapter 8, "Multilevel modeling," pp. 199-201.]
- Heck, R.H. (2001). Multilevel modeling with SEM. In G.A. Marcoulides & R.E. Schumacher (Eds.), *New developments and techniques in structural equation modeling* (pp. 89-127). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Hoffman, D.A. (1997). An overview of the logic and rationale of hierarchical linear models. *Journal of Management, 23*, 723-744.
- Holt, J.K. (2008). Modeling growth using multilevel and alternative approaches. In A.A. O'Connell & D.B. McCoach (Eds.), *Multilevel modeling of educational data* (pp. 111-159). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Kahn, J.H. (2011). Multilevel modeling: Overview and applications to research in counseling psychology. *Journal of Counseling Psychology, 58*, 257-271.

- McCoach, D.B. & Black, A.C. (2008). Evaluation of model fit and adequacy. In A.A. O'Connell & D.B. McCoach (Eds.), *Multilevel modeling of educational data* (pp. 245-272). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- McCoach, D.B. & Black, A.C. (2012). Introduction to estimation issues in multilevel modeling. *New Directions for Institutional Research*, 154, 23-39.
- Mehta, P.D. & Neale, M.C. (2005). People are variables too: Multilevel structural equation modeling. *Psychological Methods*, 10, 259-284.
- Morris, C.N. (1995). Hierarchical models for educational data: An overview. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 20, 190-200.
- Myers, N.D., Brincks, A.M., & Beauchamp, M.R. (2010). A tutorial on centering in cross-sectional two-level models. *Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science*, 14, 275-294.
- Nezlek, J.B. (2008). An introduction to multilevel modeling for social and personality psychology. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass*, 2, 842-860.
- O'Connell, A.A. & McCoach, D.B. (2004). Applications of hierarchical linear models for evaluations of health interventions: Demystifying the methods and interpretations of multilevel models. *Evaluation & the Health Professions*, 27, 119-151.
- Osborne, J.W. (2000). Advantages of hierarchical linear modeling. *Practical Assessment, Research & Evaluation*, 7(1), 1-7.
- Paccagnella, O. (2006). Centering or not centering in multilevel models: The role of the group mean and the assessment of group effects. *Evaluation Review*, 30, 66-85.
- Peugh, J. & Enders, C. (2005). Using the SPSS mixed procedure to fit cross-sectional and longitudinal multilevel models. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 65, 717-741.
- Raudenbush, S.W. (1988). Educational applications of hierarchical linear model: A review. *Journal of Educational Statistics*, 13, 85-116.
- Raudenbush, S.W. & Bryk, A.S. (1986). A hierarchical model for studying school effects. *Sociology of Education*, 59, 1-17.
- Reise, S.P. & Duan, N. (1999). Multilevel modeling and its application in counseling psychology research. *Counseling Psychologist*, 27, 528-551.
- Roberts, J.K. (2002). The importance of the intraclass correlation in multilevel and hierarchical linear modeling designs. *Multiple Linear Regression Viewpoints*, 28(2), 19-31.
- Roberts, J.K. (2004). An introductory primer on multilevel and hierarchical linear modeling. *Learning Disabilities: A Contemporary Journal*, 2(1), 30-38.

- Roberts, J.K. & McLeod, P. (2008). Software options for multilevel models. In A.A. O'Connell & D.B. McCoach (Eds.), *Multilevel modeling of educational data* (pp. 427-467). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Robson, K. & Pevalin, D. (2016). *Multilevel modeling in plain language*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Snijders, T.A.B. & Bosker, R.J. (2012). *Multilevel analysis: An introduction to basic and advanced multilevel modeling*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Sullivan, L.M., Dukes, K.A., & Losina, E. (1999). Tutorial in biostatistics: An introduction to hierarchical linear modeling. *Statistics in Medicine, 18*, 855-888.
- Tabachnick, B.G. & Fidell, L.S. (2007). *Using multivariate statistics* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Pearson Allyn & Bacon. [See chapter 15, "Multilevel Linear Modeling," pp. 781-857].
- Woltman, H., Feldstain, A., MacKay, J.C., & Rocchi, M. (2012). An introduction to hierarchical linear modeling. *Tutorials in Quantitative Methods for Psychology, 8*(1), 52-69.

## SUPPLEMENTARY RESOURCE MATERIALS

The following books and articles are useful supplementary materials for students who desire to examine published applications of multilevel analysis or desire to gain a more in depth understanding of specific concepts or procedures used in multilevel/hierarchical linear modeling.

- Baldwin, S.A. & Fellingham, G.W. (2013). Bayesian methods for the analysis of small sample multilevel data with a complex variance structure. *Psychological Methods, 18*, 151-164.
- Baretvas, S.N., Meyers, J.L., & Rodriguea, R.A. (2005). The cross-classified multilevel measurement model: An explanation and demonstration. *Journal of Applied Measurement, 6*, 322-341.
- Bickel, R. (2007). *Multilevel analysis for applied research: It's just regression!* New York: Guilford.
- Boyle, M.H. & Willms, J.D. (2001). Multilevel modeling of hierarchical data in developmental studies. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 42*, 141-162.
- Burstein, L. (1980). The analysis of multi-level data in educational research and evaluation. *Review of Research in Education, 8*, 158-223.
- Burstein, L. (2002). The analysis of multilevel data in educational research in evaluation. *Review of Research in Education, 8*, 158-233.
- Castro, S.L. (2002). Data analytic methods for the analysis of multilevel questions: A comparison of intraclass correlation coefficients,  $r_{wg(j)}$ , hierarchical linear modeling, within- and between analysis, and random group resampling. *The Leadership Quarterly, 13*, 69-93.
- Curran, P.J. (2003). Have multilevel models been structural equation models along? *Multivariate Behavioral Research, 38*, 529-569.

- de Leeuw, J. & Kreft, I. (1986), Random coefficients models for multilevel analysis. *Journal of Educational Statistics*, 11, 57-85.
- de Leeuw, J. & Kreft, I. (1995), Questioning multilevel models. *Journal of Educational Statistics*, 20, 171-189.
- de Leeuw, J. & Kreft, I.G.G. (2001). Software for multilevel analysis. In A.J. Leyland & H. Goldstein (Eds.), *Multilevel modeling of health statistics* (pp. 187-204). Chichester, UK: Wiley.
- Draper, D. (1995). Inference and hierarchical modeling in the social sciences. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 20, 115-147.
- Enders, C.K. & Tofighi, D. (2007). Centering predictor variables in cross-sectional multilevel models: A new look at an old issue. *Psychological Methods*, 12, 121-138.
- Finch, W.H., Bolin, J.E., & Kelley, K. (2014). *Multilevel modeling using R*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.
- Gaudreau, P., Fecteau, M.C., Perreault, S. (2010). Multi-level modeling of dyadic data in sport sciences: conceptual, statistical, and practical issues. *Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science*, 14, 29-51.
- Gelman, A. & Hill, J. (2007). *Data analysis using regression and multilevel/hierarchical models*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Goldstein, H. (1987). *Multilevel models in education and social research*. London: Griffin.
- Harrison, D.M. & Raudenbush, S.W. (2006). Linear regression and hierarchical linear models. In J.L. Green, G. Camilli, & P.B. Elmore (Eds.), *Handbook of complementary methods in education research* (pp. 411-426). Washington, DC: American Educational Research Association.
- Heck, R.H. & Thomas, S.L. (2015). *An introduction to multilevel modeling techniques* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New York: Routledge.
- Hoffman, D.A. & Gavin, M.B. (1998). Centering decisions in hierarchical linear models: Implications for research in organizations. *Journal of Management*, 24, 623-641.
- Hox, J. (2010). *Multilevel analysis: Techniques and applications* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York: Routledge.
- Hox, J. & Roberts, J.K. (2010). *Handbook of advanced multilevel analysis*. New York: Routledge.
- Kenny, D.A. & Hoyt, W.T. (2009). Multiple levels of analysis in psychotherapy research. *Psychotherapy Research*, 19, 462-468.
- Kreft, I. & de Leeuw, J. (1998). *Introducing multilevel modeling*. London: Sage.
- Kreft, I.G.G., de Leeuw, J., & Kim, K. (1990). The effects of different forms of centering in hierarchical linear models. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 30, 1-22.
- Lane, C.J. & Zelinski, E.M. (2003). Longitudinal hierarchical linear models of the Memory Functioning Questionnaire. *Psychology and Aging*, 18, 38-53.

- Luke, D.A. (2004). *Multilevel modeling*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Leyland, A.H. & Goldstein, H. (2001). *Multilevel modeling of health statistics*. Chichester, UK: John Wiley.
- Maas, C.J.M. & Hox, J.J. (2005). Sufficient sample sizes for multilevel modeling. *Methodology*, *1*, 86-92.
- Muthen, B.O. (1994). Multilevel covariance structure analysis. *Sociological Methods & Research*, *22*, 376-398.
- Nezlek, J.B. (2001). Multilevel random coefficient analyses of event and interval contingent data in social and personality psychology research. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *27*, 771-785.
- Nezlek, J.B. & Zyzanski, L.E. (1998). Using hierarchical linear modeling to analyze grouped data. *Group Dynamics*, *2*, 313-320.
- O' Brien, R.M. (2000). Levels of analysis. In E.G. Borghatta & R.R. Montgomery (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Sociology* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., pp. 1591-1596). New York: Macmillan.
- O' Connell, A.A. & McCoach, D.B. (Eds.) (2008). *Multilevel modeling of educational data*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Raudenbush, S.W. (1988). Educational applications of hierarchical linear models: A review. *Journal of Educational Statistics*, *13*, 85-116.
- Raudenbush, S.W. (1995). Reexamining, reaffirming, and improving application of hierarchical models. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *20*, 210-220.
- Raudenbush, S.W. & Bryk, A.S. (2002). *Hierarchical linear models: Applications and data analysis methods* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Rogosa, D. & Saner, H. (1995). Longitudinal data analysis examples with random coefficient models. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *20*, 149-170.
- Scott, M.A., Simonoff, J.S., & Marx, B.D. (Eds.) (2013). *The Sage handbook of multilevel modeling*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Seltzer, M.H., Wong, W.H.M., & Bryk, A.S. (1996). Bayesian analysis in applications of hierarchical models: Issues and methods. *Journal of Educational Statistics*, *21*, 131-167.
- Singer, J.D. (1998). Using SAS PROC MIXED to fit multilevel models, hierarchical models, and individual growth models. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *24*, 323-255.
- Singer, J.D. & Willet, J.B. (2003). *Applied longitudinal data analysis: Modeling change and event occurrence*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Skrondal, A. & Rabe-Hesketh, S. (2004). *Generalized latent variable modeling: Multilevel, longitudinal, and structural equation models*. Boca Raton, FL: Chapman & Hall.