

ANG 5486: QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY (MA LEVEL)

Course Objectives:

This is an introductory course in quantitative methods in which students will learn to apply principles and techniques in statistics as part of the process of developing research studies and in the collection and analysis of data. While the focus in the course is on statistical applications in anthropology, other examples from the social sciences and related disciplines will be provided and discussed.

After completing this class students should be able to do the following:

- 1) Read and interpret quantitative data in the anthropological literature and other related disciplines
- 2) Manage databases (e.g., development of databases, data entry, handling of missing data and input errors)
- 3) Check for normality and determine which statistical procedures should be used in an analysis (e.g., parametric and non-parametric tests)
- 4) Conduct basic exploratory data analysis using univariate-, and in some cases, multivariate-statistics
- 5) Design research in which data can be linked to study questions and/or be used in hypothesis testing
- 6) Use statistical software programs such as SPSS

Depending on the interests and expertise of different faculty members, other methodological approaches and examples may be introduced, such as odds ratios and confidence intervals, GIS, and cluster analysis.

This class is offered every year, in the Fall semester.