HIST 215 History by the Numbers (BH, Q)

Course Description: This mid-level course explores various historical topics using the U.S. Census, Statistical Abstracts, opinion polls, online historical archives, and selected European sources. Topics include politics, public opinion, immigration, lifestyle, ethnicity and race, gender and sexuality, economic growth, income inequality, technology and manufacturing, and natural resource utilization. This course seeks to develop students' competency in analyzing quantitative information, and in relating this information to real-world conditions. Students will learn how to read statistical tables, import data to spreadsheet programs, generate graphs, and perform basic analyses using spreadsheet functions. Advanced students will be encouraged to undertake more sophisticated analyses such as word frequency counts and arguments using logical operators. A laptop computer with an installed spreadsheet program required. No mathematics background needed.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and participation 15%
Quiz 1—Statistics Terms and Concepts 10%
Exercise 1—Spreadsheet and graphing 10%
Week 2 evaluation—Demographics 20%
Week 3 evaluation—Economy 20%
Week 4 evaluation/Final Exam 25%

Administrative Information:

Instructor: Prof. Wyatt Evans
Dates: May 21 – June 13
Times: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; T, W, TH

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to abide by the academic regulations of Drew University and the College of Liberal Arts. Cheating, plagiarism, copying, and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. Go to https://uknow.drew.edu/confluence/display/cladean/Standards+of+Academic+Integrity for complete information.

Academic Accommodations: Should you require academic accommodations, you must file a request with the Office of Disability Services (BC 119B, extension 3962). It is your responsibility to self-identify with the Office of Disability Services and to provide faculty with the appropriate documentation from that office at least one week prior to any request for specific course accommodations. There are no retroactive accommodations.
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� Visit and familiarize: U.S. Census Bureau; Digital South Asia Library; |
| 4  | 5/28 | People: race, ethnicity, and immigration. |
|    | 5/29 | People: families and lifestyles. |
|    | 5/30 | Week 2 Exercise and Evaluation. |
| 3  | 6/4  | Economy: GDP, employment, and major trends. |
|    | 6/5  | Economy: equality across race, gender, and geographic region |
|    | 6/6  | Week 3 Exercise and Evaluation |
| 4  | 6/11 | . . . and Things: transportation, communications, and public services |
|    | 6/12 | Things: natural resources |
|    | 6/13 | Week 4 Evaluation and Final Exam. |
Online Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau: http://www.census.gov/#

For earliest editions: http://www.census.gov/prod/www/statistical_abstract.html

Digital South Asia Library (University of Chicago): http://dsal.uchicago.edu/index.html

Gallup Online: http://www.gallup.com/home.aspx

Pew Research Center: http://www.pewresearch.org/

Required Reading:

Chapter 1 : http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/40006_Chapter1.pdf.


Additional Reading (Optional):


