ANNOUNCING “STAT CAMP” 2015
A SUMMER STATISTICS IMMERSION PROGRAM
FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AT LSU

Contact: Dr. James C. Garand (pogara@lsu.edu, 578-2548) for more information

The LSU Graduate School and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences are pleased to announce the 12th year of Stat Camp at LSU, a summer statistics immersion program for graduate students in the social sciences. The goal of the program is to equip social sciences students, especially entering and first year students, with basic statistical research skills critical to completion of their programs of study and their research activities. Previous Stat Camps have been a great success, and we are committed to a first-rate experience in 2015!

Interested students should contact Dr. Garand to register in the courses associated with Stat Camp. Enrollment will be limited to 25 social sciences graduate students, so students are encouraged to commit to this program as soon as possible. Normally only LSU graduate students in the social sciences (or related fields) may register.

Stat Camp will meet from July 6 to July 24. Classes will be held Monday through Thursday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 PM, with morning and afternoon breaks and a lunch break. Based on recent experience, we believe that a session held closer to the beginning of the Fall semester works best. By special arrangement with the Registrar’s Office, students will be enrolled during the Summer A session, though Stat Camp does not begin until the last three weeks of that session. Registration in special sections of POLI 7964 (morning lecture) and POLI 4001 (afternoon laboratory) will be handled through Dr. Garand and the Registrar’s Office; students will not be able to register directly for these courses/sections.

Students will be registered for POLI 7964 and POLI 4001 on a pass-fail basis only. Students are not permitted to register in Stat Camp courses for graded credit, as this defeats one of the primary purposes of the program. Participants are expected to register for both courses for 3 hours each, for a total of 6 hours of pass-fail credit. Mornings will be devoted to lecture; afternoons will be devoted to lab work. Tuition and fees are charged as usual. In the lab course, students will work in small groups, and each group will be mentored by two experienced graduate assistants, all supervised by the instructor.

It is important to note that the courses for Stat Camp are not intended to be a substitute for graded coursework in statistics required for enrolled students’ programs of study. The primary benefit of this program is immersion in statistics training in a relaxed atmosphere, and this should prepare beginning or first-year students for more intensive training in statistics required by their home graduate programs. Previous participants report that their understanding of statistics improved as did their confidence in their ability to successfully complete statistics training and the statistical analyses required for their research. In addition, senior graduate students in the social sciences who are interested in a statistics “refresher” prior to writing their dissertations are also invited to participate in this program.