Strategies for Success in EPY 721: Statistics from Students

What to Expect:
1. Be prepared to spend a lot of time studying and doing homework for this class.
2. You cannot just learn statistics by reading. Set aside time throughout the week to practice solving as many problems as possible.
3. The topics that covered in the midterm and final are known from the beginning. Take advantage of that information and start learning those concepts early.
4. You only need to have basic math skills and some proficiency with SPSS (IBM's analytic software).
5. Use different learning approaches (e.g. study groups, video tutorials).

Strategies and Tips:
1. Constant practice and reading.
2. Read the lessons before each class.
3. Pay attention to the PowerPoint lectures.
4. Take class notes, especially on the instructor's explanations and step-by-step problem solving methods.
5. Complete ALL assignments (including suggested work).
6. External help from a student colleague can make a big difference.
7. Join a study group.
8. Don't feel like you're bothering the professor, ask questions.
9. The key is finding the professor that works for you!
10. Seek outside resources (e.g. YouTube videos).

For Additional Support:
Below is a list of people that can be reached for tutoring support. Before contacting Dr. Gao, please email Dr. Christine Clark at chris.clark.unlv@me.com Contact information for Ms. Part can be found here: http://csieme.us/documents/Writing-Research-Tutoring%20Support.pdf
- Dr. Gao Su, former doctoral student in the Department of Teaching and Learning and a consummate *quantitative* researcher, now an Assistant Professor at the University of Central Florida.
- Rachel Part, a current doctoral student in Educational Psychology.

Student Recommended Useful Resources:
Salkind, N. J. (2011). *Statistics for people who (think they) hate statistics*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.
Pallant, J. (2016). *SPSS survival manual: A step by step guide to data analysis using IBM SPSS* (6th ed.). Sydney, Australia: Allen & Unwin.
Griffith, A. (2010). *SPSS for dummies*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley.
Laerd Statistics: SPSS Statistics Tutorials and Statistical Guides (https://statistics.laerd.com/features-overview.php)

Student Testimonials:
"There is no doubt that this is a rigorous course, but if I can do well anyone can. Honest!!!"

"Lots of time and practice. It's hard but it can be done! I have zero math skills but I made it."

"I had not studied math for more than 25 years, and English is my second language so I had to translate lots of words to understand; it was hard for me, but not impossible. I worked with two different study groups in the class to understand it. I really recommend study groups and the books to be successful."

"Had I been good in stats my parents would have made an engineer out of me. So, if I survived it anyone can."

"I took it online, did great, but I don't think I would recommend that to someone who may potentially struggle with the content."

"For me, taking it in person is much better than online…Also, whether taking it online or in person, I highly recommend taking it with someone you know and work well with or finding a study buddy in the class immediately. It helps tremendously to have someone to work through the coursework with you."