

Report on Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab

Aligarh Muslim University Murshidabad Centre

26th December, 2015 (Second Day)

The second day of the ‘Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab’, being held at AMU Murshidabad Centre, started with basic statistics session by resource person Dr. Mohd. Arshad, Assistant Professor, AMU Aligarh. Dr. Arshad explained the mathematical treatment of various topics like measures of dispersion, moments, Sheppard corrections for grouped data, and shape of distributions. In the second session of the day, Dr. Arshad elucidated the concepts of probability distributions and chi-square statistics. The participants from diverse academic backgrounds learned these concepts with apt attention.

The third session was conducted by Dr. Supravat Bagli, Assistant Professor of Economics, Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University, West Bengal. Dr. Badaruddoza, Director, AMU Murshidabad Centre felicitated the resource person with a memento and shawl. Dr. Bagli gave a hands-on experience in using SPSS. The session was conducted in the computer lab of the Centre, well-equipped with the required software. Dr. Bagli practically taught the applications of SPSS in different research problems encountered in Social Science researches. He covered different types of t-test, ANOVA, and Chi-square test and explained the interpretation of results obtained after applying these tests.

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28th December, 2015 (Third Day)

The momentum of learning and dissemination of knowledge, which began in the AMU Murshidabad Centre from 25th December, continued on the third day also. Dr. Haseeb Athar, Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics & Operation Research, AMU, Aligarh was the resource person for the third day of the ‘Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab’.

Welcoming the resource person, Dr. Badaruddoza, Course Coordinator and Director, AMU Murshidabad Centre, introduced Dr. Athar. He said that Dr. Athar has more than 14 years of experience in teaching and research with more than 50 research papers in reputed national and international journals. He felicitated the resource person with a bouquet, memento, shawl and an official bag. Dr. Badaruddoza, urged the participants to grasp this opportunity of learning data analysis from renowned resource persons and eminent statistician in this field. He further said that this is a golden opportunity for all the participants, being provided by the **Centre of Academic Leadership and Education Management (CALEM)**, HRDC, AMU, Aligarh. All the participants must put in extra effort to understand the intricacies of statistical analysis.

Dr. Athar delivered a talk on ‘Exploratory Data Analysis using SPSS’ in the first session. He explained the need of sampling and various types of sampling methods, different forms of scaling and their applications in various fields of study. Dr. Athar gave a hands-on experience on SPSS in the second session. He explained in detail the basics of data entry in SPSS by practically illustrating the entire process himself. By giving the statistical background of t-test and ANOVA, he elucidated the applicability of these test in different situations using a data set. The participants, though coming from different academic backgrounds, reported that the sessions were a great learning experience for them.

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29th December, 2015 (Fourth Day)

On the fourth day of the Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab, the resource person Dr. Haseeb Athar, AMU, Aligarh entered into the domain of chi-square test and regression analysis in the morning session. He also delivered a talk on the topic ‘Concept of Hypothesis Testing and Inferential Analysis’. Using SPSS, he practically taught how to perform correlation analysis, applicability of Spearman and Kendall Correlation Coefficients, partial correlation, simple regression analysis, multiple regression analysis and the interpretations of these tests.

A new dimension to the course was added with the introduction of ‘Minitab’ by the second resource person of the day, Prof. Aquil Ahmed, Department of Statistics and O.R., AMU, Aligarh. Dr. Badaruddoza, Course Coordinator and Director AMU Murshidabad Centre felicitated the guest in the traditional manner of the Centre with a bouquet, memento, shawl and office bag.

Dr. Badaruddoza introduced Prof. Ahmed as a renowned statistician with more than 26 years of teaching experience. He informed that Prof. Ahmed started his career as a Statistical Assistant in the Interdisciplinary Centre of Development Studies, AMU way back in 1985 to become Research Assistant and then got appointed as Assistant Professor in the University of Kashmir, Srinagar in 1988. Having served as Dean, Faculty of Physical & Material Science and Founder Head of the Department of Statistics in the University of Kashmir, Prof. Ahmed specializes in Operations Research and Bayesian Statistics. Dr. Badaruddoza further informed that Prof. Ahmed has published more than 60 research papers, has guided 07 Ph D and 11 M Phil. students, and has organized several research methodology workshops and International Conferences. The Course Coordinator exhorted the participants to strive hard to learn as much as possible from the vast experience and teaching caliber of Prof. Ahmed.

Prof. Ahmed, in his first session motivated the participants to try to learn statistics not as a part of some complex mathematical model but as a subject that will help them in their day-to-day life. Citing various practical examples, Prof. Ahmed said that all the major Multinational Companies (MNCs) are flourishing because of the vast applications of statistics in predicting production, sales, profitability and competitive forces in the market. With the help of sample data, he compared the population statistics with those of sample statistics and explained the importance of random sampling. In his second session, Prof. Ahmed introduced Minitab software to the participants. He explained and demonstrated the process of data entry into the worksheet. He illustrated the use of various commands that are required to run the software. Most of the participants reported that it was for the first time that they were able to effectively use this software.

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30th December, 2015 (Fifth Day)

The resource person, Prof. Aquil Ahmed, in the Short Term Course on Data Analysis at AMU Murshidabad Centre taught the applications and use of data analysis software Minitab. He said that Minitab is such a simple and powerful software that once we get acquainted with it, there is hardly any need to use other similar software. Comparing Minitab with SPSS, Prof. Ahmed explained that comparatively SPSS has limited applications, mostly confined to the field of Social Sciences, whereas, Minitab is a software that can be used in diverse subjects like Economics, Business Management, Statistics, Biology and many more.

Interacting with students in his unique teaching style, Prof. Ahmed elucidated the utility and the simple meaning of standard deviation with the help of marks attained by students in an exam. He also demonstrated the application of 'tora' software in simply getting solutions of complex Linear Programming Problems. In the end of the session, Dr. Badaruddoza, Course Coordinator and Director, AMU Murshidabad Centre expressed gratitude on behalf of all the participants to Prof. Ahmed for sharing his teaching experiences and deep insights into the world of statistics and data analysis.

Dr. Badaruddoza, along with Prof. Ahmed also participated in the Blanket Distribution Drive for poor and marginalized people, organized at the Centre under the banner of newly established Murshidabad Centre Educational and Social Welfare (MCESW). The drive was coordinated by Mr. Farukh Abdullah, BALLB Final year student.

Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab Concluded at Aligarh Muslim University Murshidabad Centre

Aligarh Muslim University Murshidabad Centre for the first time, since its establishment, successfully conducted a 'Short Term Course on Data Analysis/SPSS and Minitab' under the aegis of Centre for Academic Leadership and Education Management (CALEM) at the UGC Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC), Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. Eminent resource persons delivered lectures and side-by-side provided hands-on training to the participants on using SPSS and Minitab for Data Analysis.

World renowned personalities in Statistics Prof. Qazi Mazhar Ali, Chairman, Department of Statistics & O.R. and Prof. Asish SenGupta, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata were the resource persons for the concluding day of the course. Prior to the start of the technical session, Dr. Faiza Abbasi, Assistant Director, UGC HRDC, distributed the feedback forms to the participants and described the importance of such courses in the career development of faculty members.

Dr. Badaruddoza, Course Coordinator and Director, AMU Murshidabad Centre introduced Prof. Ali as one of the very few 'Aligs' who have got their Ph D from Oxford. Prof. Ali, in his session, explained the utility of statistics in every walk of life. He elucidated the concept of framing of hypothesis with simple examples. Prof. SenGupta delivered a talk on the applications of statistical analysis and the recent international developments in the field of Statistics and Operations Research.

The **Valedictory function** of the course was held in the Academic Block in the evening with Prof. Ali as the Chief Guest and Prof. SenGupta as Guest of Honour. Dr. Badaruddoza, felicitated the guests with bouquet, memento, and shawl. Dr. Faiza Abbasi, in her address, presented an account of the objectives of HRDC and the role it is playing in developing academic leadership in teachers of colleges and universities. Two course participants, Dr. Rashid Usman Ansari, AMU Murshidabad Centre and Dr. Swati Mollah, Dumkal College, shared their experience during the course.

Prof. SenGupta, and Prof. Ali also address the participants. Prof. SenGupta promised to deliver lectures in such courses at AMU Murshidabad Centre in future also. Prof. Ali expressed satisfaction over the arrangements made at the Centre and in Kolkata for the resource persons coming from Aligarh and congratulated the Director for organizing the course successfully in maiden attempt. Dr. Badaruddoza, elaborated the need for organizing such courses in Murshidabad. He said that Murshidabad is one of the most educationally backward districts of West Bengal and AMU shares a great responsibility to change this picture. He requested Prof. Ali and Dr. Abbasi to assign other similar courses in coming days.

In the end, certificates were distributed to the participants along with a book (as a gift) titled: Higher Education: Issues and Challenges edited by Prof. Abdul Rahmeen Kidwai, Director UGC HRDC, AMU.

The program was conducted by Dr. Syed Atif Jilani, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration. It came to a conclusion with AMU tarana.