Sociology 346: Statistics for The Social Sciences is by far one of the most challenging, yet rewarding courses I have had the privilege of taking thus far in my collegiate academic career. In this course I learned different statistical skills and techniques that I was able to apply to the sociological data that myself and fellow classmates collected in the fall 2020 semester. Applying the skills that I learned in this course I was able to run an independent samples t-test, chi-squared test, ANOVA, Pearson's Correlation, and linear regression by hand as well in statistical programs, in order to determine the significance of the data. The results of the statistical testing showed that there was a positive correlation between student anxiety during COVID-19 and perceived ability to succeed in online learning. I am not only grateful to be able to use my findings to suggest ways universities can improve their response to global health crises, I am also excited and motivated to apply the statistical skills that I have learned to future opportunities.

The purpose of the fall 2020 sociological research study was to examine the attitudes of the students at Longwood University in response to the changes that have taken place at Longwood University in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The hypothesis that was tested was that students experiencing anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic would have a negative attitude towards online learning. The dependent variable in this study is a student's self-assessment of their own ability to succeed in the online learning environment. The dependent variable was operationalized through a 1-10 scale response question, 1 being "not confident at all" and 10 being "extremely confident." The independent variable in this study was student anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic. The fall 2020 study was a mixed-methods study and the sample collected was a non-probability convenience sample. Data was collected through an online self-administered Google survey.

Although the data does not suggest an overwhelmingly large correlation between student anxiety and perceived ability to succeed, the results still show that there is a

relationship between the two variables. Unfortunately, a large amount of policies that have been created at universities have been put in place to respond to the physical health of students. Therefore, in the future when creating policies to deal with global health crises universities should take into consideration the mental health of students. With direct correlation between student success and anxiety universities should consider providing outlets for students such as mental health resources. Possibly in the future I would suggest a reanalysis of online/hybrid learning in higher education to prevent negative long term effects on students now that this type of learning had been used by Universities to respond to COVID-19 for over a year.

While I am excited by these findings, I look forward to future research and hopefully solutions to aid students' mental health in connection to online/hybrid learning. In addition to this, after completing this course I am now able to apply statistical techniques by hand and in multiple statistical programs including SPSS and R-Studio. These aforementioned skills include: recoding data in SPSS and R-Studio, calculating z-score, probability, confidence intervals, independent samples t-test, ANOVA test, Chi-Squared Test, Pearson's Correlation Coefficient, and regression. I am now able to carry out actions such as finding the range, variance, and standard deviation of distributions. Now, having all of the aforementioned skills under my belt I plan to apply them to opportunities in the future. Whether that be interpreting data or conducting other sociological research.