## Statistical Analysis Final Project

## Description of Study

The data were exported from the gradebooks of two online introductory statistics course sections. The two sections of the course were taught by different instructors. All of the materials and assessments used in the two sections were identical.

## Dataset

Gradebook2023.csv Download Gradebook2023.csv

## Research Questions

1. Can midterm exam scores be used to predict final exam scores? (Use the data from both sections)
2. Did the average final exam scores of students in the two sections differ?

## Answers

## Descriptive Statistics-MidtermExam and FinalExam

Descriptive Statistics

|  | MidtermExam | FinalExam |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Valid | 76 | 76 |
| Missing | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 85.250 | 85.355 |
| Std. Deviation | 6.755 | 6.362 |
| Minimum | 68.000 | 70.000 |
| Maximum | 100.000 | 100.000 |

## Correlation plot

MidtermExam

$\begin{array}{llllllll}65 & 70 & 75 & 80 & 85 & 90 & 95 & 100\end{array}$

FinalExam


## Correlation-MidtermExam and FinalExam

Pearson's Correlations

|  |  | n | Pearson's r | p | Lower 95\% Cl | Upper 95\% Cl |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| MidtermExam | - | FinalExam | 76 | 0.846 | $<.001$ | 0.767 |

## Linear Regression-MidtermExam and FinalExam

Model Summary - FinalExam

| Model | R | $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | Adjusted $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | RMSE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 6.362 |
| $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ | 0.846 | 0.716 | 0.712 | 3.413 |

ANOVA

| Model |  | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | p |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ | Regression | 2173.393 | 1 | 2173.393 | 186.576 | $<.001$ |
|  | Residual | 862.015 | 74 | 11.649 |  |  |
|  | Total | 3035.408 | 75 |  |  |  |

Note. The intercept model is omitted, as no meaningful information can be shown.

Coefficients

| Model |  | Unstandardized | Standard Error | Standardized | t | p |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ | (Intercept) | 85.355 | 0.730 |  | 116.966 | $<.001$ |
| $\mathrm{H}_{1}$ | (Intercept) | 17.418 | 4.989 |  | 3.491 | $<.001$ |
|  | MidtermExam | 0.797 | 0.058 | 0.846 | 13.659 | $<.001$ |

## Descriptive Statistics-Section and FinalExam

Descriptive Statistics

|  | FinalExam |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | 1 | 2 |
| Valid | 41 | 35 |
| Missing | 0 | 0 |
| Mean | 86.195 | 84.371 |
| Std. Deviation | 6.750 | 5.816 |
| IQR | 9.000 | 9.000 |
| Minimum | 72.000 | 70.000 |
| Maximum | 100.000 | 92.000 |

## Boxplots

FinalExam


Independent Samples T-Test-Section and FinalExam

Independent Samples T-Test

|  | t | df | p | Mean Difference | SE Difference | 95\% Cl for Mean Difference |  | Cohen's d | SE Cohen's d |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Lower | Upper |  |  |
| FinalExam | 1.250 | 74 | 0.215 | 1.824 | 1.459 | -1.083 | 4.730 | 0.288 | 0.232 |

## Descriptives

Group Descriptives

|  | Group | N | Mean | SD | SE | Coefficient of variation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| FinalExam | 1 | 41 | 86.195 | 6.750 | 1.054 | 0.078 |
|  | 2 | 35 | 84.371 | 5.816 | 0.983 | 0.069 |

## Reporting of Results

Data were collected from a sample of 76 students. Two primary research questions were addressed:
1.Can midterm exam scores be used to predict final exam scores? (Use the data from both sections)
2. Did the average final exam scores of students in the two sections differ?

First the relationship between midterm exam scores and final exam scores was examined. In this sample the mean midterm exam score was 85.25 ( $\mathrm{SD}=6.755$ ) and the mean final exam score was 85.355 (SD= 6.362); both distributions were two-tailed and approximately normally distributed. The results were statistically significant. The relationship between the two variables is linear and positive with a strong level of strength ( $r=.846, \mathrm{p}<.001, \mathrm{R}$-squared $=.716$ ). There is evidence of a relationship between midterm exam scores and final exam scores.

Second, the average final exam scores in two different sections were compared. In the sample the average final exam score in section 1 was $86.195(S D=6.75)$ and the average final exam score in section 2 was 84.371 ( $\mathrm{SD}=5.816$ ). Due to the final exam scores being from two different sections a two independent means $t$-test was conducted. The data were approximately normally distributed. The difference was not statistically significant $[t(74)=1.25, p=.215\}$ with a small to moderate effect size ( $d=0.288$ ). The results suggest that the final exam scores of students in the two sections did not differ.

Future research should continue to be conducted to explore the relationship between midterm exam scores and final exam scores. Further research should also be conducted in comparing the relationship between courses of similarity taught by different instructors during the same time. It is important to repeat research in the same categories to compare the results over time. For example, if in a future statistical analysis, the comparison of two sections of identical details show statistical significance with regards to the difference in average final exam scores in two comparable courses it would be important to look into the details further to try to learn why. At which point changes to be made could be suggested to the professors of the course with the lower average final exam score.

