

**Sociology 126: Health of the Public
Spring 2014
First Midterm Examination**

Name: _____

Yale ID: _____

TF: _____

Directions:

Please read these instructions carefully; **we will deduct points if you do not comply with them exactly:**

1. Write your full name, Yale ID number, and TF's name at the top of this page.
2. This exam consists of SIX (6) questions. Each question is on a separate page. You need to answer FIVE of the six questions. **You should answer *only* FIVE questions.** If you answer all six, we will grade and count only #1-5, and you will have made bad use of your finite time. The last page is scrap paper that will not be graded (you may rip it off to use it, but leave the rest of the exam stapled together).
3. **On every page except the scrap paper, write your Yale ID and name at the top. DO THIS NOW.**
4. Leave blank the page with the question you are not answering. If you start writing on it, put a large X through the page. **It must be clear to the graders which question you are choosing not to answer.**
5. A good answer will refer to readings or lectures where relevant (you can mention a name or the title or just the article's topic – we do not expect precise citations). Your answer should be as organized, clear, and concise as possible. **Remember we are NOT expecting a full essay; two paragraphs should be sufficient for each question.** You are not required (or even encouraged) to use all the space provided to answer a question. **Make sure to write legibly.**
6. Please raise your hand to speak with a TF if you have any questions.

Good luck!

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For graders' use only.

Question 1: _____

Question 4: _____

Question 2: _____

Question 5: _____

Question 3: _____

Question 6: _____

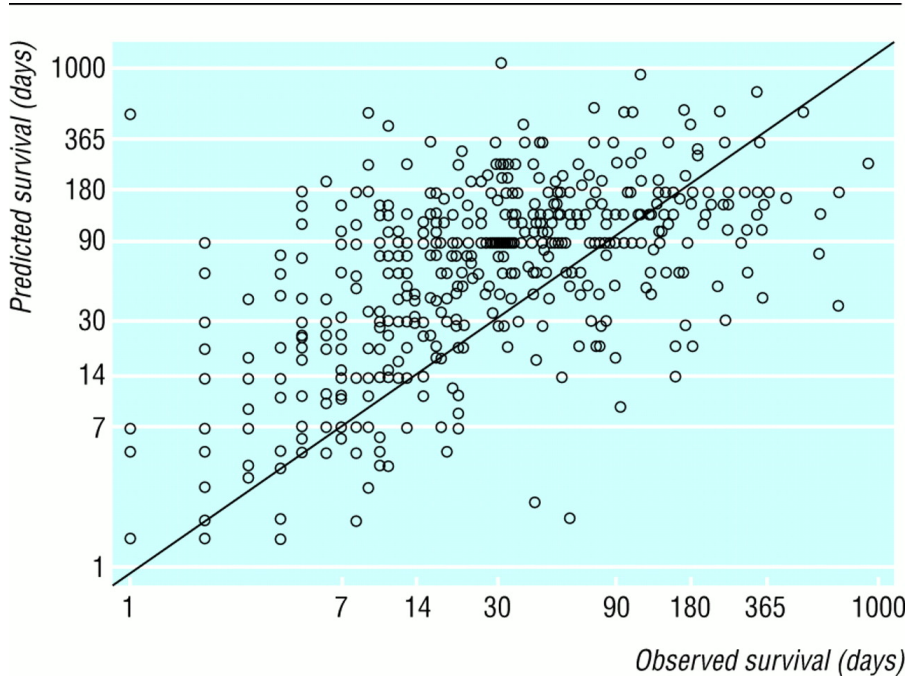
Total: _____

Question #5

Name: _____
Yale ID: _____

(a) How good are doctors at predicting the timing of death for terminally ill patients? Use the graph below, taken from the readings, to support your answer; be sure to explain what the main findings of the graph are. (source: Christakis NA and Lamont EB, “Extent and Determinants of Error in Doctors’ Prognoses for Terminally Ill Patients: Prospective Cohort Study,” *British Medical Journal* 2000.)

(b) How does prognostic accuracy affect care at the end of life?



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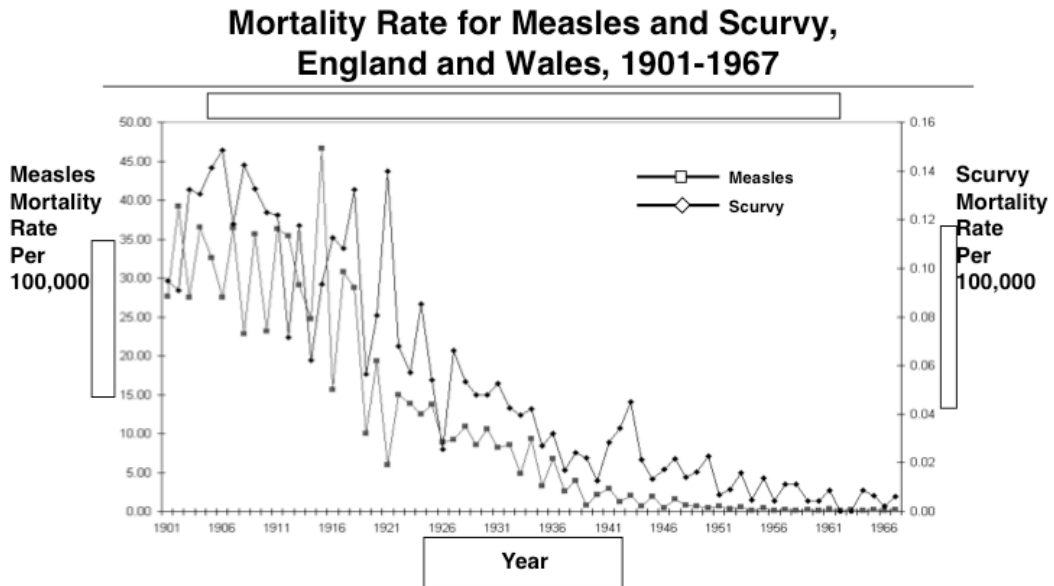
Question #6

Name: _____

Yale ID: _____

(a) Are the data in the below graph more compatible with an argument for (1) the discovery and implementation of vaccination for measles in the 1920s affecting measles mortality, or with (2) broad, socioeconomic changes in modern society affecting measles mortality. Why?

(b) How does your answer to the foregoing relate to arguments we have reviewed regarding whether recent increases in our life expectancy since the 1960's (e.g., with respect to cancer, cardiovascular conditions, or some other illnesses) are largely attributable to advances in clinical medical care?



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Scrap Paper

****NOTHING ON THIS PAGE WILL BE GRADED****