Project

This is a group project that requires each group find a real-world problem to analyze. While it would be wonderful to find a problem for which the group could design and run the experiment this semester, because of time constraints, the group can select to analyze an experiment that is close to completion or one that has already been completed. This, however, should be an original problem (not already analyzed) and likely result in a more elaborate analysis than simple t-test (although those are not bad to do as part of the analysis). Each group must get approval of their problem from the instructor by Friday November 1; the earlier the better. A problem related to your field would be preferred.

The groups should consist of 4 or 5 members and these groups should be finalized by Friday October 25th. To make sure we have enough time for presentations at the end of the semester, there should be no more than 8 groups. If you are having a problem finding a group, please contact the instructor.

Each group must turn in a preliminary summary of the analysis by Friday Nov 15th in class. It should contain a description of the problem, any preliminary analysis, and what you plan to do in terms of analysis. This summary is limited to 3 pages and should take the structure of a journal paper in that it contains 1. background and description of the problem 2. design and analysis 3. results and 4. conclusions and future work. Tables and plots should be integrated into the text and not included in the back. The preliminary analysis will not contain all these things but it should be a template of how you plan to make the final report.

Each group need write a final report (10 page limit) that will be due the last day of class December 6th. In addition, each member of a group will evaluate his/her and the other group members participation in the project. This evaluation form will be handed out near the end of the semester and will be due by the last day of class.

Finally, at the end of the semester (the last two lectures), each group will give a 10-15 minute presentation of their problem and analysis. This oral report can involve the whole group or just one member. The order of these reports will be chosen near the end of the semester.

To summarize, each member’s grade will be based on 1. Final written summary and oral presentation 2. Evaluation of participation 3. Preliminary summary.