This is a group project where each group finds a real-world problem to analyze and summarize. You should select an original problem (not already analyzed) and one likely to result in a more elaborate analysis than simple t-tests (although those are not bad to do as part of the analysis) and/or simple linear regression. Each group must get approval of their problem from the instructor by Thursday March 24; the earlier the better. You should present a brief summary that contains a description of the problem, any preliminary analysis that helps in the description, and what you as a group plan to do in terms of analysis. If a group is having problems finding a project, please contact the instructor for ideas or possible assignment of a project.

The project involves several individual and group components:

Each group will write a final report that will be due on April 21 before the class. This summary is limited to 10 pages and should take the structure of a journal article in that it contains 1) background and description of the problem; 2) design and analysis; 3) results; and 4) conclusions. Tables and plots should be integrated into the text and not included in the back. Appendices are allowed but they will not be referenced when the paper is evaluated.

Second, each member of a group will evaluate his/her and the other group member’s 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. This evaluation is to summarize effort in trying to do his/her fair share, not the knowledge of the individual.

Finally, if time allows, each group will give a 10-15 minute presentation of their problem and analysis at the end of the semester (the last one or two lectures). This oral report can involve the whole group, a subset, or just one member. The order of these presentations 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 (instructor’s evaluation)
2. Evaluation of participation (individual and other group members)

Important Dates:

- Thursday, Feb. 24. Please form groups of up to 3 classmates, and notify me by email.
- Thursday, Mar. 24. Each group must get approval of their problem from the instructor.
- Thursday, Apr. 21. Please turn in a final report before the class.
- Apr. 26 / Apr. 28 (Tentative). Each group gives a 10-15 minute presentation of their problem and analysis.
Groups:

- TBA.