Data Analysis Practicum

Progress Report 2

Due 2 April 2019 by 2:00pm.

It's time to check in again with your projects. This progress report is meant to see how you're doing with your independent research and application, and help you troubleshoot any problems you're running into. I want the following from each project team, be that team an individual student or a small group:

1. **Question:** In about 2-4 paragraphs, explain the question you are investigating with these data. This will be similar to how you started your last report, but I don't want you to copy what you wrote there. Use what you've learned since the first report—through your methods research, your analysis of the data, and through our previous meeting—to rephrase your problem into a narrow, achievable goal for this project. Again, make sure to discuss your rationale for investigating this question as well as what you hope can be learned.

2. **Approach:** In about 1-2 pages, explain how you are using the data to address the question you have posed. As with the first section, this will be similar to what you did in your last report; and as in the first section, you are now looking to elaborate this section with the knowledge you've gained. What methods have you settled on using for these data? What reading and research have you done concerning: the methods you are using, other approaches researchers have taken to data like this, the background for these data, etc. This section is where you'll report the non-analysis work you've been doing on your problem.

3. **Analysis:** In about 1-2 pages, provide intermediate analysis results from the data that pertain to your question. We're only about a month away from class presentations, so hopefully you've made some good progress with your data so far. This section should be like the traditional data analysis reports you've done for other classes, but it's fine (and expected) for it to be somewhat incomplete. Where there are analyses you plan to do but haven't yet done, feel free to mention that they'll be coming later in the final report.

4. **Direction:** In about 2-4 paragraphs, discuss what you still feel you need to do on this project. Is there more research you need to do on the methods you're using? What further analyses do you want to do? With one month left, wherever you are in the process of your project, you should be able to think of some tasks to help you answer your research question as well as possible in the time remaining.

After your progress reports have been submitted, I'll be meeting with each team individually to discuss their project in more depth, during the 1-2 weeks following their submission.