

Pre-Class Preparation & Materials Needed (Instructor):

Send in an email to students:

- Confirmation of room and zoom link
- Remind students to bring their computers
- Make sure you know if everyone has R and installed; level of R fluency
- Snacks
- Copies of the syllabus
- Copy of Course Roster
- Flip charts and markers
- Dry write markers
- Tent cards for student names

Objectives and Competencies for this session:

- Describe and implement conventions for proper naming of files
- Explain the difference between proprietary and open formats
- Learn how to efficiently organize their research data files
- Learn the preferred format for storing and archiving different types of data files
- Become familiar with different options for cloud data storage and backup
- Develop and implement a plan for short- and long-term data storage, back-up, and archiving
- Learn rules and policies for data security
- Become familiar with tools for such tasks as batch renaming of files, cloud data storage, and automated data backup.
- Explain options for a long-term sustainable preservation strategy/policy for your data (e.g., discipline specific, institutional, departmental, individual).
- Address the need for conversion to standard formats needed for re-use
- Perform basic archival processes: checksum, auditing, format migration, etc.
- Understand costs & time lines for data storage, management tools and services

Pre-class Preparation (Students):

• Readings:

1. Jan Čurn. 2014. How a bug in Dropbox permanently deleted my 8000 photos. [\[read online\]](#) [\[download pdf\]](#)
2. PSA: Scrivener, Data Integrity and You. Or, How To Avoid Data Loss Heartbreak. [\[read online\]](#) [\[download pdf\]](#)
3. Hart EM et al. (2016) Ten Simple Rules for Digital Data Storage. PLoS Comput Biol 12(10): e1005097. [\[read online\]](#) [\[download pdf\]](#).
4. Panzarino, M. 2012. How Pixar's Toy Story 2 was deleted twice, once by technology and again for its own good. TNW. [\[read online\]](#) [\[\[download pdf\]\]](#)

• Online Lectures:

1. Video on [Project Organization](#)
2. Video on [File Names](#)
3. Video on [Storage and Backup](#)

Class Outline

1. **Block 1: (25 min):**
 - a. Address any questions from last week
 - b. Overview of today's activities.
2. **Block 2: File Format Competition (35 min)**
3. **Snack Break (10 min)**
4. **Block 3: Breakout 1 (25 min):**
 - a. Discussion of Data Security and Backup in the field
5. **Block 4: Breakout 1 return results (30 min)**
 - a. Key message - assume the worst case scenario. become paranoid. embrace neurosis. then relax because the plan is in place and all possibilities have been accounted for.
6. **Block 5: Breakout 2 (55 min)**
 - a. Interview Breakout, collect answers on google doc or word doc and submit with Assignment 2
 - b. Remainder of time is to work on Assignment 2. Instructor regularly checking in on students
7. Semi-joking: objectives for today are to instill:
 - a. a sense of paranoia that everything that could go wrong with notebooks, datasheets, samples, and their backups will - fire, lost mail, flooding, demonic intervention - so that we plan for all scenarios. Can now photograph records, backup, leave portable hard drives, abc samples, deposit in collections, take a portable scanner to the field...whatever. As researchers and grad students there is plenty to stress about as it is, lets, take this stress away so that you can stress about other stuff that "matters".
 - b. Focused Laziness: we want to do this in a way that is as automated (and automatic) as possible. This will mean less work! And that means more time to do other things, be it research or relaxation.

After class:

- Be sure you complete and submit the assignment by 9 am Monday
- Prepare for next session (assigned reading, videos, etc).