

DATA 606

Quantitative

Timeline for the Rest of the Semester

11/19: **Please turn your revised Data & Methods sections in to me!**

I should be able to go over them during break.

Dan will go over Results, Discussion and Conclusion sections

11/26: Thanksgiving; work remotely

12/3: In-class peer-review of Results/Discussion/Conclusion of Quant

12/10: Turn in Results/Discussion/Conclusions of Quant to Runfolo (will provide feedback, but no further deliverables this semester).

Next sections up: Results, Discussion & Conclusion for Quant

Results Section: Focuses on presenting the findings objectively, without interpretation.

Discussion Section: Explains the significance of the findings, places them in context, and addresses implications.

Conclusion Section: Summarizes the key findings, provides takeaways, and may include recommendations or future research directions.

Tips for Results

Purpose: Present quantitative findings in a clear and logical format.

- **Structure:** Use tables, charts, and graphs to effectively convey data. **Make your figures/charts first, then write this section around them! (You'll likely end up making more as you start this process). Think about what might be interesting for your discussion.**
- **Focus:** Highlight key findings relevant to your research questions or hypotheses.
- **Best Practices:**
 - Include only objective results.
 - Avoid interpretation or speculation in this section.
 - Use subheadings to organize findings by research questions or hypotheses. **Tip:** Make visualizations self-explanatory with clear labels and legends.

If you create more than 10 figures, consider putting some of the less important ones in an appendix.

Tips for Discussion

Purpose: Interpret and contextualize findings.

- **Key Elements:**

- **Interpretation:** Explain what the results mean in relation to the hypotheses or research questions.
- **Comparison:** Relate findings to previous studies and highlight similarities or differences.
- **Implications:** Discuss the practical or theoretical significance of the findings.
- **Limitations:** Acknowledge study limitations and their potential impact on results.

- **Pitfalls to Avoid:**

- Overgeneralizing findings.
- Ignoring contradictory results or failing to explain unexpected outcomes.

Tips for Conclusion

Purpose: Provide a succinct wrap-up of the study. 2-3 paragraphs at most.

- **Content:**

- Restate the main findings without rehashing the details.
- Highlight the contribution of the study to the field.
- Suggest practical applications or policy implications, if relevant.
- Recommend future research directions based on gaps identified in the study.

Common Mistakes:

- Introducing new findings or interpretations.
- Overstating the study's impact.

Surprise bonus in-class content: quals study guide preview