

# Perusal Quick-Start Guide

January 2021



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# What is Perusall?

Perusall is a browser-based software platform for interactive learning. Students help each other learn by collectively annotating readings in threads, responding to each other's comments, and interacting. Perusall can bring the interactivity of a small seminar to a larger course.

## Why are we using Perusall?

Some of our Data Science Workshops are being taught using a “flipped classroom” model — this is where lecture-based material is delivered online, asynchronously, so that it can be digested at your own pace, which provides more time for Q&A discussion during in-class time.

Prior to our Zoom-based one-hour Q&A session, there will be a **two week self-study period** during which you can work through the workshop materials at your own pace. We are using Perusall as a means to facilitate greater engagement with the workshop materials during this self-study period. With Perusall, you will be able to post questions and comments about parts of the materials you do not understand or problems you encounter. Instructors can answer your questions and comments, but you will also have the opportunity to reply to questions and comments from other participants. In this way, Perusall facilitates peer-to-peer and peer-to-instructor learning.

**Your successful completion of the workshop will be based on making a contribution, via questions and comments, during this self-study period.**




# How to use Perusall?


You should have received an email asking you to create an account at <https://perusall.com/>. You should also have received a **course code** via email. If you have not, please contact your workshop administrator. Once your Perusall account is created, enter the course code and you will be able to view the course materials.


During the two week self-study period, you can highlight sections of the workshop materials you wish to ask questions about, add comments, as well as respond to questions and comments from other participants. The window for submitting questions will close 24 hours prior to the Zoom Q&A session.


## 0.1 My courses



Help TS

**Enroll in course**  
Enroll in a course using your instructor's course code.

**Create study group**  
Create a study group for informal discussion with friends.

**My purchases**  
Review your past book purchases.

**My courses**

Sort by: Name, A-Z

**Data Science Workshops**  
Starts January 11, 2021 / Ends February 1, 2021

**My archived courses**

You do not yet have any archived courses. Courses are archived automatically when their end date has passed.

## 0.2 Get started

Perusall®

> Data Science Workshops > Get started

Help

TS

Data Science W... X

My Courses

Course home

My scores

Notifications

Notes

Add to my calendar

Unenroll from course

Readings

Library

Data\_Science\_Workshops

Assignments

Feb 1: R Intro

Chats

Groups

Announcements

General discussion

One-on-One

Hashtags

#grades

#lecture

Get started

Library

Assignments

Perusall helps you **learn faster** by collaboratively annotating the readings and communicating with your classmates. Collaboration gets you help whenever you need it, makes learning more fun, enables you to help others (which research shows is also a great way for you to learn), and helps the instructor make class better by emphasizing information that you need.

If you have a question or information to share about a passage in the readings, highlight the text and type in a comment as an annotation. You can also respond to a classmate's annotation in threads (Facebook style) in real time or upvote questions you find helpful. Good annotations contribute to the class by stimulating discussion, explaining your thought processes, helping others, and drawing attention to good points. If a particular classmate's point is relevant, you can explicitly "mention" them and they will be immediately notified, even if not presently signed on.

Research shows that the following behaviors on Perusall predict higher end-of-semester grades and long term mastery of the subject. Your instructor may use some or all to determine your formal score.

- Contributing thoughtful questions and comments to the class discussion, spread throughout the entire reading (**see some examples**)
- Starting the reading early
- Breaking the reading into chunks (instead of trying to do it all at once)
- Reading all the way to the end of the assigned reading
- Posing thoughtful questions and comments that elicit responses from classmates
- Answering questions from others
- Upvoting thoughtful questions and helpful answers



## 0.3 Assignments

The screenshot displays the Perusall web interface. At the top, the breadcrumb navigation shows 'Perusall® > Data Science Workshops > Assignments'. The top right contains a 'Help' link and a user profile icon labeled 'TS'. A left sidebar menu includes options like 'My Courses', 'Course home', 'My scores', 'Notifications', 'Notes', 'Add to my calendar', 'Unenroll from course', 'Readings', 'Library' (with 'Data\_Science\_Workshops' selected), 'Assignments' (with 'Feb 1: R Intro' selected), 'Chats', 'Groups', 'One-on-One', and 'Hashtags'. The main content area has tabs for 'Get started', 'Library', and 'Assignments'. A card for the assignment 'Data\_Science\_Workshops R Intro' shows a due date of 'Mon Feb 1, 2021 12:00 pm EST'. Below the card, a message states 'Please add questions or comments to the assigned page ranges' and 'Assignment not yet opened.' A prominent green button with a right arrow and the text 'Work on assignment' is highlighted with a red border.

Perusall® > Data Science Workshops > Assignments

Help TS

Data Science W... X

My Courses

Course home

My scores

Notifications

Notes

Add to my calendar

Unenroll from course

Readings

Library

Data\_Science\_Workshops

Assignments

Feb 1: R Intro

Chats

Groups

Announcements

General discussion

One-on-One

Hashtags

#grades

#lecture

Get started Library Assignments

Due Mon Feb 1, 2021 12:00 pm EST

Data\_Science\_Workshops R Intro

Data\_Science\_Workshops R Intro

Due Mon Feb 1, 2021 12:00 pm EST

Please add questions or comments to the assigned page ranges

Assignment not yet opened.

Work on assignment

The screenshot shows the Perusall web application interface. A central white overlay box contains a welcome message and instructions for using highlights to start conversations. The background shows a sidebar with navigation options like 'My Courses', 'Readings', 'Assignments', 'Chats', 'Groups', 'One-on-One', and 'Hashtags'. The main content area displays a document titled 'Data Science Works...' with a page number of 53. A 'Current conversation' panel is visible on the right, and a 'Please add questions or comments to' prompt is at the bottom right.

**Perusall®** > Data Science Works... Page 53

**Data Science W...**

- My Courses
- Course home
- My scores
- Notifications
- Notes
- Add to my calendar
- Unenroll from course

**Readings**

**Library**

Data\_Science\_Workshops

**Assignments**

Feb 1: R Intro

**Chats**

**Groups**

- Announcements
- General discussion

**One-on-One**

**Hashtags**

- #grades
- #lecture

Current conversation

Click a highlight to view the discussion here, or create a highlight to start a conversation.

Welcome to the social learning experience in Perusall! In documents, highlights in the text represent conversations between you and other members of the course; in videos, these conversations are displayed as circular highlights on the video timeline below the video.

Yellow highlights correspond to threads started by students, and blue highlights correspond to threads started by an instructor. To get started:

- In a document, highlight some text in a document to start a conversation.
- In a video, navigate to the part of the video you want to discuss, and click **Add comment** to start a conversation about the current position in the video.

Click **Next** or press the right arrow key to continue the tour and learn more about the Perusall experience.

Copying text from the book, from external web sites, or from other students and submitting it as your work is plagiarism and a violation of academic integrity; your instructor or institution may impose significant penalties for plagiarized work.

> Next

End tour

Please add questions or comments to

## 0.4 Layout

**Perusal**
> Data Science Works... Page 54
A [Image] ↺ 🔍
All comments ▾
[Icon] ? Help
(TS) ▾

---

### Data Science W... ✕

- My Courses
- Course home
- My scores
- Notifications
- Notes
- Add to my calendar
- Unenroll from course

---

### Readings

---

### Library

Data\_Science\_Workshops

---

### Assignments

Feb 1: R Intro

---

### Chats

?

---

### Groups

+  
• 📢 Announcements  
• General discussion

---

### One-on-One

+

---

### Hashtags

? +  
#grades  
#lecture

CHAPTER 3. R INTRODUCTION

```

summarize
mutate
select
filter
    
```

3.3.1 Filter, select, & arrange

One way to find the year in which your name was the most popular is to filter out just the rows corresponding to your name, and then arrange (sort) by Count.

To demonstrate these techniques we'll try to determine whether "Alan" or "Mark" was more popular in 1992. We start by filtering the data so that we keep only rows where Year is equal to 1992 and Name is either "Alan" or "Mark".

```
# Read in the baby names data (if you haven't already)
baby_names <- read_csv("babynames.csv")

# Filter data, keeping "Alan" and "Mark" in year 1992, record in baby_names_alexmark
# The logical operation is exactly the filtering condition
baby_names_alexmark <- filter(baby_names,
                             Year == 1992 && (Name == "Alan" | Name == "Mark"))

print(baby_names_alexmark) # explicit printing

## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##   Name Sex Count Year
##   <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 Alan Girl 366 1992
## 2 Mark Girl 20 1992
## 3 Mark Boy 8743 1992
## 4 Alan Boy 1746 1992

baby_names_alexmark # implicit printing
```

### Current conversation ✕

Click a highlight to view the discussion here, or create a highlight to start a conversation.

## 0.5 Ask a question

Perusall® > Data Scienc... Page 54

CHAPTER 3. R INTRODUCTION

3.3.1 Filter, select, & arrange

One way to find the year in which your name was the most popular is to filter out just the rows corresponding to your name, and then arrange (sort) by Count.

To demonstrate these techniques we'll try to determine whether "Alex" or "Mark" was more popular in 1992. We start by filtering the data so that we keep only rows where Year is equal to 1992 and Name is either "Alex" or "Mark".

```
# Read in the baby names data (if you haven't already)
baby_names <- read_csv("baby_names.csv")

# Filter data, keeping "Alex" and "Mark" in year 1992, record in baby_names_alexmark
# Use logical operators to specify the filtering condition
baby_names_alexmark <- filter(baby_names,
  Year == 1992 & (Name == "Alex" | Name == "Mark"))

print(baby_names_alexmark) # explicit printing
```

## # A tibble: 4 x 4  
## Name Sex Count Year  
## <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl>  
## 1 Alex Girl 308 1992  
## 2 Mark Girl 20 1992  
## 3 Mark Boy 8743 1992  
## 4 Alex Boy 7348 1992

baby\_names\_alexmark # explicit printing

3.3 MANIPULATING DATA

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 4  
##   Name Sex Count Year  
##   <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl>  
## 1 Alex Girl 308 1992  
## 2 Mark Boy 8743 1992  
## 4 Alex Boy 7348 1992
```

Notice that we can combine conditions using & (AND) and | (OR).

Current conversation

Why do we use two equals signs in this code chunk?

Not yet submitted: press Enter to submit.

Please add questions or comments to

## 0.6 Answer a question

Perusall® > Data Scienc... Page 54

CHAPTER 3. R INTRODUCTION

3.3.1 Filter, select, & arrange

One way to find the year in which your name was the most popular is to filter out just the rows corresponding to your name, and then arrange (sort) by Count.

To demonstrate these techniques we'll try to determine whether "Alex" or "Mark" was more popular in 1992. We start by filtering the data so that we keep only rows where Year is equal to 1992 and Name is either "Alex" or "Mark".

```
# Read in the baby names data (if you haven't already)
baby_names <- read_csv("babynames.csv")

# Filter data, keeping "Alex" and "Mark" in year 1992, record in baby_names_alexmark
# Use logical operators to specify the filtering condition
baby_names_alexmark <- filter(baby_names,
  Year == 1992 & (Name == "Alex" | Name == "Mark"))

print(baby_names_alexmark) # explicit printing
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##   Name Sex Count Year
##   <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 Alex  Girls   366  1992
## 2 Mark  Girls    20  1992
## 3 Mark  Boys   8743  1992
## 4 Alex  Boys   7348  1992
```

3.3. MANIPULATING DATA

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##   Name Sex Count Year
##   <chr> <chr> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 Alex  Girls   366  1992
## 2 Mark  Girls    20  1992
## 3 Mark  Boys   8743  1992
## 4 Alex  Boys   7348  1992
```

Notice that we can combine conditions using & (AND) and | (OR).

Current conversation

Why do we use two equals signs in this code chunk?

Jan 10 2:39 pm

Enter your comment or question and press Enter. Mention a friend by typing @. Add hashtags by typing #.

Please add questions or comments to



# Zoom-based Q&A session

After the two-week self-study period, we will host a one-hour live Q&A session via Zoom. No new material will be presented during this session – rather, this will be an additional opportunity to ask questions and get feedback about the materials. The instructor will use the questions submitted on Perusall as a starting point for discussion and possibly for short code demonstrations illustrating conceptual or syntactical stumbling blocks.

**Zoom etiquette:** Please be punctual. All participants will initially be entered into a Zoom waiting room and the presenter will admit them to the session at the designated start time. Any participants arriving in the wait room more than 5 mins past the listed start time of the session will not be admitted.