Course Syllabus



ISM 6419
Data Visualization for
Story Telling
Summer 2023
Non-BAIS Students

Instructor:	Han Reichgelt, PhD
Office	LPH 430 St Petersburg
Office	CIS 2071 Tampa
Office phone	727-873-4786
Fax	TBD
Email	reichgelt@usf.edu
Classroom	BSN 118
Time:	NA Asynchronous
Office hours	Mondays 10:00-12:00 pm(via Teams)
	Mondays 6:00-8:00pm (via Teams)
	Wednesdays 2:30-6:00 pm (in person at CIS 2071 or via Teams).
	Also available at other times by appointment.

Course Description:

As organizations gather and access more and more data, the issue of knowledge management in general and business intelligence and data analytics in particular takes on an increasing importance for organizational success. However, while the various business intelligence tools often offer important information, in order for such information to be useful from an organizational point of view, it needs to be presented in a way that is accessible.

Data/Information visualization is widely used in several industries, including business, engineering, and media disciplines to help people analyze and understand what the data is telling us. The visualization field has grown exponentially over the last few years, and thus there are more tools available to help us quickly and efficiently create compelling ways to understand data.

This course examines how to present insights gained through the application of business intelligence techniques in the most effective way to tell stories that can improve the quality of leadership decisions.

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

- 1. Discuss the importance of data visualization in improving data-driven organizational decision-making.
- 2. Distinguish between truthful visualizations and misleading visualizations, and discuss what makes a visualization truthful or misleading.
- 3. Use data visualization tools to produce quality visualizations.
- 4. Create visualizations in at least one programming language.
- 5. Use widely used data visualization tools to clearly, effectively and compellingly communicate insights to improve organizational decision making.

Course Material

Required:	
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NONE

Optional:

Healy, K. (2019) *Data Visualization: A Practical Introduction*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press

Henley, A.J. & Wold, D. (2018) *Learn Data Analysis with Python: Lesson in Coding* . Apress. (An electronic version of the book is included in module 7)

Milligan, J. (2016) *Learning Tableau 10 (2nd Edition)*. Packt Publishing (Electronic copy available from USF library)

Nussbaumer Knaflic, C. (2015) Story Telling with Data. Wiley

Where appropriate, we will also include links to additional optional material online.

We will of course rely heavily on Canvas. The Canvas privacy policy is at https://www.canvaslms.com/policies/privacy.

Grading

You will be assessed using a number of different assessment tools, including

• A number of smaller projects.

- A few graded discussions. The graded discussions require you to make an initial contribution by **Thursday** and the follow ups by Sunday or earlier.
- The larger project in which you will conduct data analysis and data visualization on a data set, preferably of your own choosing, and
- A reflective essay on what you learned in the course and how you could use the competencies acquired in the course in your professional career.

Unless otherwise indicated, the deadline for all the assignments is Sunday.

The link of most of the assessments to the course objectives will be clear. The only assessment instrument that needs justification is the reflective essay. Research (see e.g. http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/principles/learning.html) has shown that learning improves considerably, especially for adult students, if students reflect on their learning and how they could use the competencies and knowledge that they acquired in a course through their own careers. There will be more details on what to include in the essay later on in the course.

Since the project is such a large part of the overall grade for the course, you are welcome to submit an early draft of the project, and there will be a number of graded discussions in which you are asked to report on the progress of your project and on any issues you are running into. The project will consist of a written report and several visualizations in whatever tool you choose (Tableau or Power BI). You will also be asked to make a project presentation, consisting of a 5-minute video.

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Assessment	total
Mini projects	225
Small Graded Discussions	55
Large Graded Discussion	80
Reflective essay	30
Project Presentation	30
Final Project	200
Total	620

Your raw numerical grade will be converted to a letter grade according to the following table:

A+	>= 96.5%	<= 100%
Α	>= 93%	< 96.5%
A-	>= 90%	< 93%
B+	>= 86.5%	< 90%
В	>= 83%	< 86.5%
B-	>= 80%	< 83%

C+	>= 76.5%	< 80%
С	>= 73%	< 76.5%
C-	>= 70%	< 73%
D+	>= 66.5%	< 70%
D	>= 63%	< 66.5%
D-	>= 60%	< 63%
F		< 60%

Provisional Schedule

Date	Topics	Assessments
May 15	"Getting Started" "Introduction to Data Visualization"	Syllabus Discussion Discussion on Misleading and Truthful visualizations
May 22	"Telling Stories with Data and a First Introduction to Tableau"	Discussion on Initial Project Ideas Some simple Tableau Visualizations Tableau Exercise 1
May 29	"Data Preparation in Tableau"	Tableau Exercise 2
June 5	"Combining Visualizations, Animations & Parameters in Tableau"	Discussion on Data Visualization and Visual Impairment Tableau Exercise 3
June 12	Power BI Part 1	Project Progress Discussion 1 Power BI Exercise 1
June 19	Power BI Part 2	Power BI Exercise 2
June 27	Qlik Sense	Qlik Sense Exercise
July 3	Data Visualization in Python	Python Exercise Project Progress Discussion 2
July 10	Project	Project report, including visualizations Project presentation Reflection Paper

Important dates:

- May 29, Memorial Day, USF offices closed.
- June 19, Juneteeth holiday, USF offices closed.
- July 1, Last day to eithdraw, No refund and no academic penalty.
- July 4, Independence Day, USF office closed

Course Policies

Contacting the Instructor:

The easiest way to contact me is through CANVAS. I typically log in at least once a day, and often more frequently, and this includes weekends. You can also reach me by email as reichgelt@usf.edu or on my mobile 678-314-4432. I will normally answer you within 24 hours and often more quickly, unless I have indicated through a course announcement that I may not be able to. If you want to meet me in person, please make an appointment. I realize that some of you will be working full-time and that it will not always be convenient for you to meet during regular office hours, or in my office, and we can therefore be flexible both regarding time and place.

Communications from the Instructor:

I will in general communicate with you through course emails and course announcements, and it is therefore crucial that you log in at least twice a week to make sure that there are no new messages from me. I will also communicate with you by leaving comments on the various assignments that you complete. It is important that you read these even if you earned the maximum grade on the assignment because I often make some comments on how you could further improve the assignment.

Deadlines:

I will strictly enforce deadlines and will typically not grade work if it is submitted after the deadline. Since the technology is still not 100% reliable, I would encourage you not to wait until the last moment before you start working on your assignments. Also, as you are working, please save your work often, preferably both on your computer and on some back-up storage device, such as a USB drive. In return, you can expect me to grade your work within 48 hours for the larger assignments and more quickly for the smaller assignments.

University Policies:

USF has a set of central policies related to student recording class sessions, academic integrity and grievances, student accessibility services, academic disruption, religious observances, academic continuity, food insecurity, and sexual harassment that **apply to all courses at**USF. Be sure to review these online at: https://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty/core-syllabus-policy-statements.aspx

Honor System:

Under the USF Honor System, each student is expected to observe complete honesty in all academic matters. Violation of the Honor System will be referred to the Honor Council. Note: The following are violations of the Honor Code: Copying another student's homework, signing another student's name on the attendance roster, copying another group's disk or written work, using another student's computer disk to print out your assignment, copying another student's file onto your disk, and misrepresenting a reason for a missed exam. Punishment for academic dishonesty may result in an automatic "F" or "FF" in the course or action that may result in suspension or expulsion. See the USF Policy on Academic Dishonesty & Disruption of

the Academic Process at https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/students/academic-integrity-of-students

Students with Accessibility Issues:

Please notify your instructor by the second week if you have a learning disability or require special assistance with this course. For additional information about academic accommodations and resources, you can visit the SAS website at https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-accessibility/

We have made every effort to make the course material as accessible as possible. However, we rely heavily Canvas in this course. Consult https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061. for the accessibility practices policies for Canvas. If you run into accessibility problems with either, please contact me.

S/U Grades:

This course cannot be taken on an S/U basis.

Title IX and Responsible Employees:

All USF faculty (adjunct, TA, etc) are designated Responsible Employees. If you have experienced sexual harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence or stalking, Responsible Employees are here to listen and connect you to resources. When a disclosure is made to a Responsible Employee, they will notify the Title IX Office on your behalf and that office will send you an email with your rights, policies, and resources (if it is safe to do so). You are not obligated to respond to this email and The Title IX Office does not share information about the report unless requested by the discloser or as required to address imminent risk to members of our community.

Confidential Resources (listed below) are available and will not be required to notify the Title IX office of disclosures of sexual harassment. If you are not sure what to do, you are encouraged to contact Victim Advocacy to confidentially explore your options including: injunctions & protective orders; changes in accommodations, living arrangements, class schedules, & transportation; assistance with academic Issues-missed classes, late assignments, etc. The Title IX Office can also provide academic, on-campus housing and USF workplace accommodations, as well as other supportive measures.

Confidential Resources	Non-Confidential Resources
Victim Advocacy in the Wellness Center	
SLC 2200	Title IX
727-873-4432	813-974-4373
https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/student-	https://www.usf.edu/title-ix/
life/wellness/victim-advocacy-services/index.aspx	
The Counseling Center promotes the wellbeing of the campus community by providing culturally sensitive counseling, consultation, prevention, and training that enhances student academic and personal success. Contact information is available at https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/counseling-center/about-us/contact-us.aspx	Student Outreach & Support PMB 101 727-873-4278 https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/student-life/student-outreach-program/
	Student Conduct & Ethical
Ombudsman	Development
Free, confidential conflict resolution	PNM 101B
PNM 105B	727-873-4278
727-873-4184	Usfsp-conduct@usf.edu
https://wwwtest.stpetersburg.usf.edu/resources/ombu	
ds.aspx	affairs/student-conduct-ethical-
	development/about-us/contacts.aspx
Student Health Services at the Wellness Center	Dean of Students
SLC 2200	PNM 101
727-873-4422	727-873-4278
https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/student-	https://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/stu
life/wellness/index.aspx	dent-life/dean-of-students/
OFF CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL	OFF CAMPUS NONCONFIDENTIAL
Suncoast Center Rape Crisis Center 2188 58th St N Clearwater, FL 33760 727-388-1220 https://www.suncoastcenter.org/sexual-assault-services	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office 10750 Ulmerton Rd Largo, FL 33778 Nonemergency: 727-582-6200 Emergency: 911 https://www.pcsoweb.com/
CASA	St. Petersburg Police Department
Domestic Violence Shelter	1301 First Ave North
1011 First Ave North St. Petersburg, FL 33705	St. Petersburg, FL 33705
24/7 Hotline: 727-895-4912	Nonemergency: 727-893-7780
https://www.casa-stpete.org/	Emergency: 911
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