Rubric for HUDM 5123 Projects

Paper details:

- 8 pages, double spaced
- Plus references, tables and figures

Together with the paper, you should also submit your data and syntax (so it should be possible to replicate your results).

Introduction & literature review (20%)

- Keep it brief, 1-2 pages, most of which should be literature review
- There are two types of papers you would want to review here: (1) papers which have used your dataset, and (2) papers which looked at the same variables to answer questions similar yours. If you use a data set from PLOS ONE, you will already have one paper to discuss.
- When you review research, focus on two things: (1) what did they find? and (2) how does it relate to and inform my motivating questions?
- If you are working with a data set from a particular paper, try to replicate some of the fundamental findings from the paper.

Methods (30%)

- 2-3 pages, go more in depth in this paper than you would if you were writing a research paper for another class. Explain which model is being used and why it is appropriate
- Describing the study design, interventions, procedure, instruments, etc.
- Describe your sample, who are they? This is the population to which you are trying to make inferences.
- Descriptive analysis (**You must present a table of descriptive statistics**, or you will lose points)
  - Data cleaning? Missing data handling?
  - Say your model has 5 variables, I expect to see descriptive information about these variables in the methods part so that the scale and measurement of these variables is understood. Also, you might want to include some variables not in your model…maybe you are not controlling for gender, but it is standard practice to report the gender distribution of your sample.
- Choosing the most appropriate model
- Model complexity

Results (40%)

- 3-4 pages, here is where you show your visualizations and statistical summaries.
- Assumption checking. Include tables/graphs/descriptive statistics as necessary.
- Valid results, and could be replicated (Don't forget to attach your syntax)
- Appropriate interpretations of the results

- Focus your reporting and interpretation on only the things that are relevant to your research question!
- Include an APA formatted table for result. Don't just paste the SPSS tables in your paper
    - APA format means you must report the test statistics and the p-value
    - In practice, which statistics you report depends on the journal you are submitting to, download previous papers which used a regression paper and just imitate their table

Discussion (5%)

- ½-1½ pages
- Relate your findings back to your literature review, what did you find that is useful for the scientific community.
- All research papers have weaknesses, what are yours? Was an important variable missing? What do you suggest for future studies?

Overall writing quality (5%)

- APA format
    - Page layout, font, table & figure titles, etc.
    - Reference
    - Statistic reporting
- Organization, grammar, and flow