ECON 8320 – Tools for Data Analysis
Semester Project [30 points TOTAL, or 30% of your final grade]

The semester project is intended to allow you to practice putting all of the concepts from class to use in a data project of your own choosing. You will be expected to scrape data from a website, clean that data in preparation for analysis, then implement your chosen form of analysis in order to address your proposed research goal. You may choose any research question that interests you, so long as you collect the data via web scraping!

What should I Choose for a Project?

- Pick a question that **you** find interesting.

- It should involve some form of analysis in addition to visualization. (Regression, clustering, prediction, etc.)

- You should be able to describe a policy implication of your research. (Can be business, public, or personal policy)

Steps to Project Completion:

1. Project Proposal (5 pts)

   - What data will you use?
   - What question will you attempt to answer?
   - What kind of analysis will you use to answer your question?

- How will you use the information you collect to answer that question?

2. The Project (25 pts)

   - Conduct your proposed research based on your proposal using the tools covered in this class
   - Write a short summary of your findings (about 3 pages)
   - Discuss tools that we didn't cover that might have been useful in your project
   - Present your methods and results to your classmates!

What to Turn In (for the whole project):

1. Project proposal (in Word or PDF format) – turned in during the proposal phase

2. Code for project implementation (may be in multiple files, but each should be of the .py format)

3. Project write-up (in Word or PDF format)

4. Slides from presentation (you are also welcome to present interactively from a notebook if you prefer, but you should then submit that notebook as your "slides")