Dear students,

Thanks for today.

We’ve covered the introductory aspects of coding and handling data in RStudio. Over the next three weeks, we’ll focus on exploring data in RStudio through descriptive statistics and visualisation. The resource for this will be released before the computer practicals.

About the Worksheets for the Portfolio

As discussed, the first worksheet has been released [HERE]. If you completed it during the computer classes and asked one of us to check that everything is correct, that’s fine – please hold on to it. That worksheet will likely be one of at least 2 out of 5 possible QSkills worksheets that will go into your portfolio for submission after the end of this term.

Like today, the 2nd and 3rd worksheets (to be released in Weeks 5 and 7) will include direct verbal feedback in class on coding, troubleshooting, and workflow to help you generate the correct outputs.

The 4th and 5th worksheets, which are linked to air quality monitoring and fieldwork, will be submitted via Moodle, where they will be marked and receive individual written feedback. They will be released in Weeks 8 and 9 respectively - both must be submitted by the end of Week 9. There is no flexibility here – this is a hard deadline, as we need sufficient time to provide individual feedback on those scripts and returned them to you before term ends so you can go off and complete your portfolio.

For Worksheets 1, 2 and 3, we’re extremely flexible. Even if you don’t finish them during the scheduled session, you can bring them to the next one for verbal feedback. Just make sure one of us has checked that there are no critical errors.

Worksheets 4 and 5 must be submitted via Moodle by their deadlines (I’ll return back to this as we come nearer to that time!). Overall, just make sure everything is completed, because Week 10 is dedicated to wrapping up any loose ends and selecting the worksheets that will go into your final portfolio. These will contribute to the overarching reflective narrative alongside worksheets from the other strands.

Talking about narratives… the Worksheets 1, 2 and 3 are focused more on workflow and coding, whereas Worksheets 4 and 5 will be applied to real datasets - one sourced from reliable open data, and the other collected from fieldwork. It will be in your best interest to include one of each in your portfolio so that you can reflect on coding etiquette and the analysis of both field collected primary and open-sourced secondary datasets.

I hope these instructions are clear.

Questions and Answers

If you have any questions, please post them on Moodle using the “Ask Questions” section in GEOG0186: QSkills. This is the best way to reach us, if you email me directly, I’ll do my best to reply, but your message may get buried under a pile of emails where you risk not getting a response from me! Using Moodle messaging ensures the whole teaching team can respond promptly. Thank you!

See you all next week.

Best wishes,

Anwar