Seminar in Criminology Research and Analysis – Crim 7301 – Rubrics

Homework Rubric - Total of 10 points

Homework assignments entail using a set of statistical code to conduct some data analysis pertaining to the class for every week. I will have a set of example code, and for your homework you will be expected to edit that code to conduct some additional analysis. The following week I expect in return a document with your name, description of the results, and tables and figures as requested.

- *Tables and Graphs (4 Points):* For tables, are numbers right aligned? Are all columns and rows property labelled? Are there an excess of digits used in a cell? For graphs, is the graph a high quality image (e.g. PNG instead of JPG). Is the legend edited to be clear? Are the colors used sufficient to disambiguate the different elements? For either tables and graphs, is the title and caption sufficient to understand what is being presented?
- *Description of the Results (4 Points):* Do you adequately describe your analyses for me to understand what you did? Did you conduct all of the analyses that I asked for? Where you able to write out an appropriate model?
- *Computer Code (2 Points):* Does the computer code match what is being described in the paper? Is the code sufficient to replicate the analysis you present?

At the beginning of the following class I will go over the homework assignment. If you turn in your homework late, I automatically deduct 50%. But it can be turned in at any later time in the semester. If you do particularly poor, I may ask you to redo a homework assignment.

Final Paper Rubric – Total of 40 points

The final paper should be a research project (preferably related to your dissertation). I do not expect a full journal article with an extensive literature review, but I do expect a minimal enough front end to understand the hypotheses of interest and to understand the data and measures. I also expect quality writing and formatting.

Since this is a class on research methods, I am mostly interested in you being able to conduct a legitimate research analysis on your own. Hence that is the main focus of this rubric.

- Hypotheses (5 points): Are the hypotheses adequately articulated and related to prior work in the field?
- Model (5 points): Is the model used to estimate empirical relationships articulated?
- Data Description (5 points): Can I understand where your data comes from, and what the variables measure?
- Formatting (5 points): I expect formatting similar to a journal article. This includes citations, and writing of high enough quality to submit for publication
- Results (20 points): Do you estimate a model that can adequately assess your hypothesis? Do you conduct appropriate hypothesis tests? Are the tables and graphs appropriate to help assess your findings? I have the same expectations for tables and graphs as I do your homework assignments as well.