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STAT 331

Final Portfolio – Essays

**Growth as a Data Scientist**

In my experience in Stat 331 this quarter, I have grown immensely in my data science skills. Coming into this class, I had no experience with data science or using Rstudio. Therefore, I had a steep learning curve, but I used this opportunity as a gift to further myself in this field. One subject in this class that I grew the most in was data wrangling. I decided to put above and beyond effort in this part of the class because I felt that cleaning data is the backbone of data science. For portraying any analytical message, whether it is through a table or graph, cleaning the data efficiently and correctly is pertinent for this result.

My first look at lab 3 was very overwhelming as I was learning all these wrangling functions for the first time. After my first submission of lab 3, I realized how misinformed I was on the uses of these functions such as mutate, filter, group\_by, summarize, etc. This misinformation was due to my ignorance of not utilizing the given resources available to me. I tried to teach myself how to use these functions on intuition which then found out that I was misusing data type for these functions and was inadequately using the function for their purpose. To resolve this issue, I studied the given resources immensely which included the slides, textbook, and videos.

After studying and practicing with these functions, I began to understand and implement them correctly into my lab 3. However, I ran into another problem even though I started to understand how to data wrangle. This was my ability to visualize the end goal (table or graph). I needed to have this ability or otherwise I would be editing the data frames with no substantial goal in mind. I solved this problem by understanding the question as well as possible and then I would draw the data frame that I wanted on a piece of paper and then would try to mimic this written table onto Rstudio. This helped me visualize what I wanted and then I could take the necessary steps to accomplish my lab 3. This was specifically the case for the question: Familiar Words in Lab 3.