**Term Project Visualization Attempt #1 Final**

**(Counts as Lab #10)**

**Submission Details:**

Before the start of **Lab #10**, post your best attempt at creating an original visualization at http://digitalmedia.neu.edu/***YourUserName***/term/attempt1/**final** so that it can be discussed.

**To ensure that you have met all of the requirements, you will be allowed to revise this work up until 11:59pm on**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **the night of your Lab #10 meeting** | |
| **the lab itself** | **, even if unfinished!** |

**; it will be graded the following day. However, you need to post something for**

The **index.html** page that you upload to this location must include:

* your best attempt(s) at a working visualization and
* your writing about this attempt

It may also include an accurate sketch of what you intended your visualization to look like, if you did not get it fully working. However, the sketch is not a substitute for some attempt at creating the visualization! If you include a sketch, please make it a reasonable size to fit with the rest of your web page.

If you created multiple visualization experiments over Thanksgiving break and this week, you may optionally use this page to link to each experiment or to other sketches that support your work. This is totally optional, though!

***(IMPORTANT NOTE: the upload location for this project is not the usual*** *lab10****; PROJECTS UPLOADED TO OTHER***

***LOCATIONS WILL NOT BE GRADED,*** *and you are NOT submitting a link to Discussion Board for us to click on!)*

**Assignment Details:**

Either continue developing your project based on your **attempt1/draft** or work on developing another idea if you have decided that the idea you worked on over break doesn’t work for any reason (e.g., you can’t get it working, you don’t understand the code, you’ve realized it doesn’t fulfill the project requirements).

A reminder: your idea does not have to match any of the visualization sketches that you've submitted, but if it doesn't, you should still test your idea with real data in sketch form before going to the trouble of trying to build it!

The goal is to have something that actually works for lab. **While your visualization should at least partially function** (i.e., we should see your actual data being plotted via your JavaScript), **it only needs to be a "rough draft"**— your best effort, but if there are issues with overlapping data or fitting labels or getting the correct units to show (e.g., you haven't figured out how to get Numbers to format as dollar amounts or dates or times), that is ok!

We are not expecting this visualization to be as polished as your other **final** versions of projects, visually, but we are expecting that you will still submit code that meets the standards we expect on the **final** for any project in this class.

In other words, all files uploaded to **attempt1/final** must be:

* **Formatted** with consistent indentation and line spacing
* **Commented** with explanations of every major section of logic. o Be sure to **remove all instructional comments** (the ones we wrote for you!) in **all files**. o *You may be somewhat informal with your function documentation for this attempt, but we* ***strongly recommend*** *that you take the opportunity to practice proper function documentation. We won’t penalize you if you don’t do it, but we will comment on it to help you if you do!*
* **Understandable** in terms of variable naming and function usage.o The term project starter uses general function names and variable names that are probably appropriate for your project, but you should still think about them.
  + If you start from someone else’s code for any part of your project you should definitely make sure the variable and function names make sense (i.e., don’t give us a function called **findAverageWeight** when your project has nothing to do with weight!)
  + *Even if you are adapting code from other sources, remember that* ***you can easily change every reference to a variable or function name*** *by right-clicking on one and choosing* ***Rename Symbol*** *from the popup menu.*

Whether you’re revising your **draft** or starting with a new idea, you should first attempt to get your code working within the provided **final project framework**. Even if you can’t entirely use the framework (for example, maybe you don’t have time to convert your data to JSON), you should be able to at least use some of it.

**Writing:**

First, put a title on the visualization, just as you've done for the scatterplots.Beneath this, provide a brief analysis of your work so far. At a minimum, tell us what hypothesis you're currently trying to prove (or what question you're currently trying to answer) and then explain to us how your current visualization supports that hypothesis (or answers that question)— or, if you feel that your current visualization does not support your hypothesis (or question answer), tell us what you will change for your next visualization so that it might better support your work.

Then, write about your research, design, and development process. What resources did you use to decide on this visualization form (cite sources and explain how you used them)? What is your rationale for using this visualization form— i.e., why do you feel it's the best fit for your data and your hypothesis (or question)?

Then explain to us how the visualization supports that hypothesis (or question answer) and/or, tell us what you think needs to be changed so that the visualization might better support your work. This can be as minor as changing how the data is shown (e.g., having the data controlling circle radii instead determine Y axis positions) or as grand as proposing a complete re-think of this visualization to better suit your data.

Explain your process in adapting your visualization from examples or online resources. At a minimum, tell us what additional forms of visualization you researched (cite sources and explain how you used them) and how you adapted one of these forms as an experiment for this project.

What challenges did you encounter in developing this visualization and/or what challenges do you still need to overcome? How can you improve this visualization in the coming weeks? What else do you need to be able to learn in order to improve this visualization?

Given your progress on this visualization, do you want to continue developing this idea for your **attempt2**, or do you want to try a different idea? *(Ideally you will do a different visualization for* ***attempt2*** *next week, but if you did not make as much progress as you wanted on* ***attempt1****, you can continue working on it. You just need to explain to us what you’re going to learn and do next!)*

The one critical thing to include is citing your sources. Be sure to explain to us what resources you used to develop your visualization idea and what resources you used to adapt a visualization idea. However, please remember that "citing sources" means explaining how each source was used, not just listing a bunch of things that you read. Don't "pad" your sources with things that aren't directly related to this project but be sure to credit any design or coding resource that you did use in this work!

**Inserting Images and Further HTML/CSS Formatting Tips:**

**IMAGES:** You can add images to your HTML using the **<img>** tag. The format is **<img src="*imagePath*">**. You can put the image in the same directory as your **index.html** and then just use the image name as for *imagePath*, or you can use directory paths to link to an image elsewhere in your web space. Some tips:

* Use an image editor to resize the image so that it fits neatly your the web page! Don't use HTML attributes to shrink the image, as it will still be a large file!
* There is no closing tag for **<img>**; it is a unary (stand-alone) tag.
* Be sure to put a proper format extension on the end of your filename. Acceptable image extensions for the web and for this assignment are **.png**, .**jpg**, and .**svg**.
  + If you don't have MacOS or Windows set up to show complete filenames, then do a "Get Info" (or "View Details") on your file to ensure there is not already an extension.
  + Please do not post images in other formats— especially not formats that are software-dependent, such as .psd (Photoshop) and .ai (Illustrator)!

**TEXT WIDTH:** Avoid allowing your text to get too wide on the page. Wide paragraphs are difficult to read! Consider using a **<div>** or just setting each **<p>** to have a **style** that sets a fixed width (e.g., **style="width: 600px"**)

**MORE INFORMATION:** https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZlA0Gpn\_vH9xx-RRVNG187ETT2ekWFsq provides a very watchable guide to the basics of HTML and CSS— and some other great beginner-oriented material, too!

**Grading Criteria:**

The **final** version of **attempt1** will be graded based on the following:

* Did you create something other than a scatterplot?
* Does your **attempt1** visualize at least some of your data accurately?
* If you were unable to get your **attempt1** completely working, have you provided sketches and an explanation of what we should be seeing, also using real data in the sketch?
* Did you provide the required analysis and explanation in the HTML on your page?
* *IMPORTANT: Even if your code doesn’t entirely work and you provided a sketch, you still must do the following things to score well on this project:* o Are your variables and functions meaningfully named? o Is your code neatly formatted?
  + Did you write code comments explaining major sections of your code? o Did you use at least some of the provided term project framework?
  + Did you delete the code comments that we wrote for you?