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Professor Bradford Dykes

STA 216 – Intermediate Stats

Growth As a Data Person

During the first couple weeks of the semester, it took a while for me to get my footing on the ground. Especially for this class. It’s not the typically do x amount of work and get a grade for the assignment at the end of the week. As the course moves on, I feel like I have been doing a pretty good job of understanding what exactly I must do in order to grow as a person in this course.

Throughout the first couple activities I feel like I grasped the understanding of how to produce numerical data from SAS which is not the hardest to do anymore. This also applies to producing graphical summaries of data. In SAS I learned a couple of helpful techniques to create graphs to further explain what I am trying to say. Where the challenge lies are how to understand what you’re outputting from the data set you’re working with and how to explain to a person who is not familiar. Sitting down and doing all of activities 1 and some of 2 I can interpret the data I created which I will showcase in my project once I get started.

As for creating statistical models to describe the distribution of variables I don’t think I have a clear concept/understanding of how that works with one variable conditional especially with multiple. There is a lot of growth potential here but it’s ultimately being halted by me because I have not been keeping up with all of activities in the Module 2 folder which I will do. What I want to do to grow in this area is have great depth of variability in my project to show and tell a story with our project theme for my part of the question.

As a computer science major, I believe I can tackle SAS and show that I will have an intermediate understanding of the language by the end of the semester. I will prove this by submitting in the code I used for my homelessness project data set and how well I will pull the data I need to tell the story. Also, when it came to using SAS in the activities, I picked up on it quick.

At this point in the semester, we have not done hypothesis testing, or any interval estimation so there has not been any growth opportunities in these course objectives. However, I am looking forward to learning these objectives and applying them to my project to showcase that I am willing to learn these skills.