IS 608 Final Project

Assignment: Your final project is to create a public visualization (static or interactive) using data relevant to a current policy, business, or justice issue. You may use any dataset you can find for this assignment, as long as it is either public or you have permission from the data's owner/administrator to work with it and share it. Recommended data sources are: governmental data, data provided by a non-profit/Non-governmental organizations, and data available from large, semi-structured data sets (ie social networks, company financials, etc).

You must document each step of your data analysis process (excluding data acquisition) in code: this will include changing the format of the data and the creation of any images or interactive displays that are made.

You must also include a short (2-3 paragraph) write-up on the visualization. This write-up must include the following: the data source, what the parameters of the data set are (geography, timeframe, what the data points are, etc) what the data shows, and why it is important.

Your proposal and your final visualization must be cleared by the instructor, and will be hosted on a public page (it will be available for the world to see).

Grading: This assignment will account for 40% of your final grade. Points will be awarded for the following components:

25% - finding your dataset(s) and getting approval for your project on-time, recognition of strength/weaknesses of data, analysis to find insights in the data

25% - data handling: cleaning, outlier/null handling, and transfer/loading data to the web

40% - data presentation: compliance with best data visualization practices, clarity, information-to-ink ratio, how memorable the visualization is

10% - contextual write-up: why the data is important, why the insights are important

Due Dates: You must submit a proposal for your project by 11/13. This proposal must include: a link to the data source, an explanation of what you want to show, why this is relevant to a current policy, business, or justice issue, which of the technologies from this semester you plan to use, and a sketch/mock-up of the visualization.

Your instructor must approve this proposal: you may have to refine this somewhat.

You will present your progress to the class on 12/4 and your final project on 12/18. If you are not able to attend the lecture on those days, you must write-up a status report with screenshots of current progress and issues you are experiencing.