**DSC 520 Final Project Template**

This handout is meant to provide you with some structure for your final project. Note that there are two parts to this handout. First is the description of what you will be doing in each section and their general due dates. Second is the template itself with the various headings.

You are free to adjust this as needed. However, given what you’ll be doing, it is advantageous to you to just follow the template as it will help keep you focused. Should you have any questions, please ask!

**Part 1 – Week 10 – Getting Started**

* Provide an introduction that explains the problem statement you are addressing. Why would someone be interested in this?
  + ***Baseball Data*: This will look at how does a player’s team impact their performance when batting. We will look into various different pieces of batting such as averages, homeruns, and extra base hits. It will also see how the batting has changed over the years. This is interesting to people because it not only allows us to see if team has any impact on player performance, but it also allows us to see how hitting has changed over the years. It allows us to make correlations and inferences.**
  + ***Presidential Election Data:* How does the 2012 differ from 2016 in election results. This allows us to look more into detail about various aspects of the presidential election. People would be very interested in this because the 2016 election was very shocking, and many people did not expect it. It will allow people to get a better understanding of what exactly happened. It could also be a good tool to understand the 2020 election.**
  + ***Summer Olympics:* We are going to look at this data to determine if individual country or person has a larger impact on Olympic victories. It will go into detail to look at winners of the Summer Olympics who have won multiple Olympic medals, from their various countries. It will also look at the detailed information about where the events took place. It will also go into detail about the specific sports. People will be interested in this because it allows people to understand when and where medals were won, and if country has an impact.**
* Draft 5-10 Research questions that focus on the problem statement.
  + ***Baseball Questions:***
    - How does team impact hitter performance?
    - Over the years how has hitting performances changed?
    - Is there a correlation between the number of homeruns and batting average?
    - How has number of atbats changed over the years, and does it impact batting numbers?
    - Do we see a correlation between specific type of hits and time period played in.
  + ***Presidential Election:*** 
    - Overall how was the 2012 election different from the 2016 election?
    - What states were key in each victory and turned party power?
    - How has voter tendencies changed over a 4 year period?
    - Has the number of gop and dem voters changed over the years?
    - Voter differences per state based off percentages?
  + ***Olympics Summer:***
    - How has the summer Olympic games changed over the years?
    - Are there countries that have a better chance at winner games?
    - Do we see specific sports that are dominated by countries or areas?
    - Are we more likely to see repeat winners if they participate multiple times?
    - Does winning one medal type lead to winning a different one?
* Provide a concise explanation of how you plan to address this problem statement.
  + **For each data set I will break down the information and see if there is a correlation between various data points. It will allow me to gain a better understanding of the data as whole. I will then go further to look into the information and the variables. Gain my understanding on how I would address the issue in the first place, and the relationship with the variables. I will then decide what points will be more valuable when looking at the relationships. This detailed data information will provide support for the question and address how to advance it further.**
* Discuss how your proposed approach will address (fully or partially) this problem.
  + **My approach will look at the detailed data points for each area. It will allow me to address the problem statement and answer the questions. Through the process of pulling specific datapoints, I will be able to build various correlation plots, and see if there are relationships between different data points. I will also readjust problem questions through this process to better hone in on the information needed to see correlation.**
* Do some digging on a dataset that you can use to address the issue.
  + Original source where the data was obtained is cited and, if possible, hyperlinked.
    - **The various datasets were pulled from Kaggle. There were 3 different datasets I pulled: Summer Olympics, 2012 vs 2016 Election Results, and Baseball Hitting Statistics.**
  + Source data is thoroughly explained (i.e. what was the original purpose of the data, when was it collected, how many variables did the original have, explain any peculiarities of the source data such as how missing values are recorded, or how data was imputed, etc.).
    - **Baseball Hitting: 22 variables with 101332 observations; N/A values: IBB, HBP, SH, SF, GIDP**
    - **Summer Olympics: 9 variables with 31165 observations; N/A values: NONE**
    - **Election Results: 21 variables with 3141 observations; N/A values: N/A values: total votes 2012, votes dem 2012, votes gop 2012, county fips, state fips, per dem 2012, per gop 2012, diff2012, per point diff 2012**
* Identify the packages that are needed for your project.
  + **Summary(), head(), cor(), plot(), ggplot(), pvalue(), adjusted\_r\_squared()**
* What types of plots and tables will help you to illustrate the ﬁndings to your research questions?
  + **Scatterplot, Matrix Table, Line of best fit, Residual Plot, Histogram,**
* What do you not know how to do right now that you need to learn to answer your research questions?
  + **I feel very confident when looking at the datasets that I have grabbed. I may have to do more research in determining linear models, and further grasping correlation based off charts.**

**Part 2 – Week 11 – Cleaning Your Data and Exploratory Data Analysis**

* Data importing and cleaning steps are explained in the text and in the DataCamp exercises (tell me why you are doing the data cleaning activities that you perform) and follow a logical process.
* With a clean dataset, show what the final data set looks like. However, do not print off a data frame with 200+ rows; show me the data in the most condensed form possible.
* What do you not know how to do right now that you need to learn to import and cleanup your dataset?
* Discuss how you plan to uncover new information in the data that is not self-evident.
* What are different ways you could look at this data to answer the questions you want to answer?
* Do you plan to slice and dice the data in different ways, create new variables, or join separate data frames to create new summary information? Explain.
* How could you summarize your data to answer key questions?
* What types of plots and tables will help you to illustrate the findings to your questions? Ensure that all graph plots have axis titles, legend if necessary, scales are appropriate, appropriate geoms used, etc.).
* What do you not know how to do right now that you need to learn to answer your questions?
* Do you plan on incorporating any machine learning techniques to answer your research questions? Explain.

Suggestion from the course professor: Some additional questions you may want to consider asking yourself as you work through this section of the project:

1. What features could you ﬁlter on?
2. How could arranging your data in different ways help?
3. Can you reduce your data by selecting only certain variables?
4. Could creating new variables add new insights?
5. Could summary statistics at different categorical levels tell you more?
6. How can you incorporate the pipe (%>%) operator to make your code more efﬁcient?

**Part 3 – Week 12**

* Overall, write a coherent narrative that tells a story with the data as you complete this section.
* Summarize the problem statement you addressed.
* Summarize how you addressed this problem statement (the data used and the methodology employed).
* Summarize the interesting insights that your analysis provided.
* Summarize the implications to the consumer (target audience) of your analysis.
* Discuss the limitations of your analysis and how you, or someone else, could improve or build on it.
* In addition, submit your completed Project using R Markdown or provide a link to where it can also be downloaded from and/or viewed.

Name:   
Date:   
Title:   
  
**Section 1**

* Introduction
* Research questions
* Approach
* How your approach addresses (fully or partially) the problem.
* Data
* Required Packages
* Plots and Table Needs
* Questions for future steps.

**Section 2**

* How to import and clean my data
* What does the final data set look like?
* Questions for future steps.
* What information is not self-evident?
* What are different ways you could look at this data?
* How do you plan to slice and dice the data?
* How could you summarize your data to answer key questions?
* What types of plots and tables will help you to illustrate the findings to your questions?
* Do you plan on incorporating any machine learning techniques to answer your research questions? Explain.
* Questions for future steps.

**Section 3**

* A story / narrative that emerged from your data. Follow this structure.
  + Introduction.
  + The problem statement you addressed.
  + How you addressed this problem statement
  + Analysis.
  + Implications.
  + Limitations.
  + Concluding Remarks