**C105 MIDTERM EXAM Study Guide**

That test can't drop me. They say it's an IQ test. I came to the combine for football.   
I looked at the test, and wasn't any questions about football. I didn't see no   
point in the test. I'm not in school anymore. I didn't complete it.   
I only finished 15 or 18 questions.



*Morris Claiborne   
Cowboys Cornerback on the NFL’s Wunderlic Test, April 27, 2012*

### Week 1: Introduction to Football & Fantasy Football

Readings: DraftDayManifesto / HowToMakeVBDWorkForYou

* What was the game of football like throughout most of the 1800s?
* Why did the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States establish a legal forward pass in 1906?
* Be able to describe the basic rules of fantasy football. What is a snaking draft?
* What is value based drafting (VBD)? Understand the logic of VBD, and how it might cause you to make decisions other than simply drafting the next-best-ranked player.
* According to Matthew Berry, what is PGO? What positions have the highest percent of PGO from the draft? -- the lowest? Why does Berry say "Go stud, then go depth."

### Week 2: Introduction to Microsoft Excel

Readings: SimpleWorksheetsInExcel

* Each cell in an Excel worksheet can be blank, or it can contain one of three things. What are those three things?
* If shown an Excel worksheet, such as weekly football stats for a fantasy team, be able to evaluate simple formulas [e.g., =((D7+B4)/C4)-(6\*C5)+A8^2)] using a pencil. (You won’t be allowed to use a calculator in the exam, but the math will be simple)

### Week 3: BECOMING EMPIRICAL

Readings: [none; review lecture slides]

* Understand the 5 features of empirical thinking.
* When given a claim (e.g., "Trent Richardson is going to score very few fantasy points this season."), be able to…
  + evaluate what sorts of data/observations might (and might not) support the claim.
  + evaluate whether supporting evidence sufficiently considers variance in football statistics.

### WeekS 4 & 5: PIVOTTABLES, Advanced Functions, and Problem Solving

Readings: Lynda.com videos on PivotTables and Excel functions

* Understand the basics of PivotTables in Excel. If shown what values/rows/columns a summary table should contain, you should know how to setup the PivotTable Field List (the toolbar that appears on the right of the Excel window when you’re interacting with a PivotTable).
* Understand the following summary functions: sum, count, average, max, min, stdev
* Understand how to use logical operators in Excel, such as >, <, <>, >=…
* Understand how to use logical functions in Excel, such as AND, OR, and NOT
* Know the syntax for IF statements, and understand how IF statements can be nested within one another. Be able to identify the correct IF statement when given an example problem in Excel.

### Week 6: Vlookup

Readings: [Microsoft Excel Help Page on VLOOKUP](http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/excel-help/vlookup-HP005209335.aspx)

* Understand the basics of VLOOKUP. What is it used for?
* What is the syntax of Excel’s VLOOKUP function? What are the primary keys in the pigskin database? If you were given the offense table, and the players table (which has player birthdays in the third column), could you identify the VLOOKUP function that would correctly append player birthdays to the offense table?