

Computing Assignment 1

Due Wednesday, September 13, before noon.

Write an R script that completes the tasks below. Be sure to write your code neatly and comment your code thoroughly. Use whitespace effectively so that the code looks neat and is easy to read. If you want concrete suggestions about style, see <http://adv-r.had.co.nz/Style.html>.

1. Assign the collection 3, 4, 2, 6, and 1 as a numeric vector to the object `x`.
2. Calculate 3 times `x`.
3. Sum the elements of `x`.
4. Create a factor vector containing the elements R, R, D, D, I, and R. Be sure to explicitly create the levels and order them R, I, then D. Be sure to print the vector. Hint: Create a character vector first and then add the levels in a second step.
5. Create a numeric vector with four total elements, one of which is missing. You choose the values of the other three. Calculate the mean first with the missing value included and then with the missing value excluded. Use comments to clearly explain what is happening.

Once the script is written, you should save it to a convenient spot on your computer. Remember that you'll be writing several scripts this semester, so keep them organized.

To submit your work, do the following:¹

1. With your R script open, click "File", "Compile Notebook..."
2. Under "Notebook Output Format," select MS Word or PDF. Depending on your computer, only one of these might work. My suspicion is that MS Word will work better with Windows and PDF will work better with Mac. The MS Word or PDF file is saved to the same location as your R script. If neither works, then see footnote 1.
3. In a web browser, go to the eCampus page for POLS 209.
4. Click "Submit Computing Assignments" in the left sidebar. Click "Computing Assignment 1."
5. To the right of "Attach File," click "Browse My Computer."
6. Navigate to the file containing your R script and you'll find a file with the same name but the extension ".pdf" or ".docx" rather than ".R". Select the ".pdf" or ".docx".
7. Click "Submit."

I expect you to submit the assignment on eCampus *before* class. However, I have given you until noon in case you encounter technical difficulties.

¹In case of technical difficulties, I don't want you to spend a lot of time figuring out how to submit your work. If you can't figure it out, just bring a hard copy to class. We'll sit down and work through the process so it's smooth and easy next time.