Assignment for Wednesday, January 18

Before class, do the following:

1. Buy or rent the textbook: Freedman, Pisani, and Purves' *Statistics*. It is important to get the 4th Edition (ISBN: 0393929728). Unfortunately, this book is expensive (about \$140). However, it is the best introduction to statistics available. We'll read most of this textbook and do many exercises found in this book. We'll have our first assigned practice problems from this book on January 30, so you need the book before then. Used and/or rentals are a good option, but I recommend *against* the e-book.

2. Buy *Foundation*: Buy *Foundation* by Issac Assimov (ISBN: 0553293354). This book is not expensive (about \$8). It would be convenient to have the same version as me, so the we can refer to page numbers, but feel free to get the Kindle edition. We'll need to read Part 1 before January 23.

3. Print and read the syllabus. Read it carefully. Bring it to class. Come prepared with any questions. The link is on the course webpage. If this link (or any other) seems to be missing or failing, then just let me know. It's usually an oversight on my part.

4. Bring your laptop to class. We'll jump in with some data analysis on the first day. (If you don't have a laptop, that's okay. There is no need to buy one just for me.)

5. Bring a notebook to class. I recommend loose leaf paper with a three-ring binder so you can organize hand-written notes, handouts, and review exercises in a single location. I also recommend a pencil and a good eraser.