Assignment for Monday, February 27

Before class, do the following:

- 1. Following Silva's (2007) advice, you should be working daily on your paper. It is due Friday, March 3. Of course, if you have questions or would just like to discuss your ideas, talk to me before class, after class, or during office hours.
- 2. Read pp. 202-203 (up to "Data and measures") of "Does district magnitude matter? The case of Taiwan" (Rainey 2015). These pages provide the theoretical background (i.e., speculation) for why we might expect higher district magnitude (the number of legislatives seats in an electoral district) to cause higher turnout. In the U.S. House of Representaives, for example, we have only one seat per district (i.e., the district magnitude is one). In Taiwan, though, the district magnitude ranges from one to 13. Not many countries have this kind of variation in district magnitude, so Taiwan provides a useful test case for this hypothesis.
- 3. Read pp. 477-478 of Clark, Golder, and Golder (2013). This section of their textbook provides a summary of one really interesting and puzzling observation: Gamson's law.
- 4. In class, we'll be using taiwan.rds and gamson.rds from the course webpage under Feb 27. If you like to follow along in class, you might wish to go ahead and download these data sets and write the code to load them.
- 5. Preview the notes on Scatterplots and Correlations in R.