

To turn in (due by 5pm on Wednesday, December 7): an article not to exceed 4 pages, including graphs/tables. The bibliography (if applicable) and Appendix are not included in the 4-page limit. You can put supplementary material or SAS/R code into the Appendix. The supplementary material might include extra text, results from analyses or graphs and tables. Including supplementary material is not required, but just an option for those that find it difficult to stick to the 4-page limit. However, I would like you to include relevant SAS/R code, with annotation. It can be streamlined (e.g., you don't need to include long data steps or repeated procedures if you are just changing the outcome or a predictor).

You probably already know this, but just to be clear: the data set you use for your project needs to have some clustered component to it. Also, somewhere near the beginning please highlight what makes your analysis unusual, complicated or non-standard. If you do not know this yet, we can discuss during the consulting session.

Installments: you have already turned in 2 installments. I would like you to turn in one more installment before the final submission. You can either e-mail me something before the consulting session, bring something to discuss at the session (hard copy or on laptop), or submit something by e-mail after the session, with a due date of November 30.

Presentation: you will receive full credit (5/5) if you make your presentation. I.e., it is more about effort than performance. The main purpose is not so much for you as it is for your peers to see. But it also helps to practice giving presentations... For those in the audience, I would like to hear at least a couple of questions for each presenter. So, plan on asking at least a couple of questions among all of the talks that you hear. Talks cannot exceed 10 minutes, including questions, so plan on about a 7 minute talk. (If you go over, I'll bring in that 'security guard' that nearly pulled me off stage at my presentation last week.) As your paper is due after the presentation, this does not need to be completely polished, and in fact if you get some ideas from students or me at that time, you can still incorporate it into your work.

So your grade on the project will be the following: 5 points for each of the 3 installments, 5 points for giving the talk (effort only), and 80 points for the article. For the article, grading will focus on the following elements:

- Write up, format and presentation of results
 - Completeness (including background info)
 - Organization
 - Clarity
 - Labelling and details on the tables and figures
 - Incorporation of statistical results into write up – done appropriately?
- Research questions
 - Clarity
 - Conciseness
- Analysis / modeling approach
 - Consistency with research questions; was enough inference (e.g., custom tests and estimation) conducted to satisfy the research questions of interest?
 - Was the modeling approach the best among feasible choices?
 - Thoroughness: how complete was analysis? Were alternative approaches tried? E.g., was enough work done to demonstrate that your 'final approach' was really the best one? Are sensitivity analyses helpful (e.g., for outliers or missing data)?
 - Do models, results and write up make it clear what was done?