Social Media and Political Participation

Lab 5

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Today

- Writing assignments: logistics
- Social media data for projects
- Advanced examples of Twitter data analysis
- Advanced examples of Facebook data analysis
- In-class exercise: descriptive analysis of social media data for your Member of Congress

Writing assignments

Writing assignments

Two writing assignments:

1. Descriptive analysis of social media data for an assigned Member of Congress
   - 5–7 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1-inch margins
   - Due Monday January 19th, at 9pm
   - 20% of grade
2. Quantitative analysis of social media data for an assigned Member of Congress
   - 5–7 pages (including graphics), double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1-inch margins
   - Due Thursday January 22nd, at 5pm
   - 20% of grade

Data for writing assignments

Look for the folder with your name inside "Data" in NYU Classes. There you will find:

- Links to the Twitter and Facebook account of your assigned Member of Congress
- A `.json` file containing his/her tweets
- A `.csv` file with information about each Facebook post on his/her public page
- A link to a website with a random sample of 50 Facebook posts and 70 tweets since January 2013.

This is the data you need to use for your writing assignments.

Advanced Twitter analysis

Advanced Examples of Twitter Data Analysis

The R script `lab5_twitter.R` shows how to:

- Open your dataset of tweets in R
- Do a preliminary descriptive analysis of the data
- Find the most common hashtags
- Visualize most common hashtags and words using a word cloud
- Count the number of tweets over time and visualize it using a graphic
- Find most retweeted and favorited tweets

Advanced Facebook analysis

Advanced Examples of Facebook Data Analysis

The R script `lab5_facebook.R` shows how to:

- Open your dataset of Facebook posts in R
- Do a preliminary descriptive analysis of the data
- Find frequency of use of specific words
- Visualize most common words using a word cloud
- Count the number of likes over time and visualize it using a graphic
- Subset posts from a given period of time

In-class exercise

In-class exercise: collecting and analyzing Facebook data

Create your own R script (with comments) that:

1. Reads the tweets sent by your assigned Member of Congress into R
2. Creates a plot showing the number of tweets sent by month
3. Generates a word cloud of the most common words in these tweets
4. Opens the Facebook posts published by your assigned Member of Congress into R
5. Finds the most shared, liked, and commented Facebook posts
6. Picks a recent Facebook post, download the list of likes, and examines the most common first names.

And send it to me via email (`pablo.barbera@nyu.edu`)