**Capstone Project Ideas**

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All three ideas will use the latest data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) available publicly at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter/DataFiles.aspx>

Specially, I will use four datasets from the IPEDS surveys:

-Institutional Characteristics (hd2012)

-Fall Enrollment (ef2017a\_dist & ef2012a\_dist )

The three datasets will be merged by UNITID and will be read into R for exploratory data analysis as well as inferential statistics to analyze enrollments in online programs by different types of institutions.

**Idea 1) Differences in Online Enrollments between Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other public and private not for profit institutions. (Independent Variable: HBCU)**

RQ1. Do HBCUs have a lower % of students enrolled in online programs than other public and private, not for profit institutions?

RQ2. How does the distribution of online students differ between HBCUs and non-HBCUs in terms of:

|  |
| --- |
| -% in state students  -% out-of-state-students  -% international |

RQ3. How did enrollments in online programs grow between 2012 and 2017 at HBCUs vs. other public and not for private institutions?

**Idea 2) Differences in Online Enrollments by type of location for public and private not for profit institutions (Independent Variable: LOCALE)**

RQ1. Do rural colleges and universities have a higher % of students enrolled in online programs than institutions located in urban or suburban areas?

RQ2. How does the distribution of online students vary by LOCALE in terms of:

|  |
| --- |
| -% in state students  -% out-of-state students  -% international students |

RQ3. How did enrollments in online programs grow between 2012 and 2017, by locale?

**Idea 3) Differences in Online Enrollments among public, private not for profit, and private for profit institutions (Independent Variable: CONTROL)**

RQ1. How does the % of students in online program vary by type of institution (CONTROL)?

RQ2. How does the distribution of online students vary by CONTROL in terms of:

|  |
| --- |
| -% in state students  -% out-of-state students  -% international students |

RQ3. How did enrollments in online programs grow between 2012 and 2017, by CONTROL?