

Subject: Prep for first day of Programming for the Social Sciences
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To: sp23-pols-60862-01-group@nd.edu
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Hi all,

Happy first day of classes! If you're receiving this email, it is because you're registered for my course "Programming for the Social Sciences." We'll meet for the first time on Monday, but we have some business to attend to before then.

First, I believe everyone registered for the course is either a Political Science graduate student or I've emailed with you to grant an override into the course. If not, please reach out to me to make sure you have the prerequisite skills for the course.

Second, please follow all steps in this email ahead of class on Monday. This is important because we have 16 students in this class!! We won't have time to troubleshoot everyone's issues in real time, and I plan to hit the ground running with code on Monday. In other words, *the point for Monday is to try your best to have these tools installed and ready to use. You don't have to fully understand them yet.* If you're having trouble with anything, I have office hours Monday morning 9:45am-noon or after class 6:15pm-7pm.

R and RStudio

- Download the latest version of R (4.2.2), following instructions [here](#)
- Download the latest version of RStudio (2022.12.0+353) following instructions [here](#)

Slack

- Watch [this YouTube video](#) about using Slack. (We'll mainly be using it to converse easily about problem sets.)
- Download the Slack application for your Desktop either for [Mac](#) and [Windows](#).
- After downloading Slack, use [this link](#) to join our class Slack workspace.

Github

- Watch [this YouTube video](#) about using Github and Github Desktop
- [Create a Github account](#) if you don't have one already.
- Download [Github Desktop](#)

First steps in putting it all together

- Post two things in the "problem-sets" Slack channel:
 - 1. Your Github username so I can invite you to our course's Github repository
 - 2. A screenshot showing you have the latest version of R installed (Hint: one way to check the version of R is opening RStudio and running the command 'version')

Thanks, and let me know if you have any questions! Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday!

Erin