Evaluation Criteria

The following guidelines will be used to evaluate reports.[1]

An A-range paper will:

- show careful, creative, and critical thinking about the topic, questions, and results.

- include appropriate references.

- be clear, concise, well-organized, and engaging.

- describe and interpret all important findings in the context of the study.

- be understandable to someone who has finished Math 158 and received a B or better.

- use all technical terms correctly and have informative, carefully-crafted plots that are well-annotated (all plots must have captions).

- show exemplary understanding of the statistical methods we have discussed.

- be grammatically correct.

- look professional with no superfluous R code.

- follow all instructions.

A B-range paper will:

- usually display careful, creative, and critical thinking but might have a few lapses.

- be described accurately by at least 2 of the following descriptors: clear, concise, well-organized, and engaging.

- be *mostly* understandable to someone who has finished Math 158 and received a B or better.

- describe and interpret all important statistical findings in the context of the study.

- show a solid understanding of the statistical methods we have discussed.

- have references that are possibly incomplete.

- have plots that are good but not great (e.g., axes could be better labeled).

- usually use technical terms correctly.

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[1] Adapted from Christina Knudson, Department of Mathematics, University of St. Thomas, Stat 333

- have grammar that is usually correct, with maybe only a couple errors.

- have only a few typos.

- have very few lapses with respect to superfluous R code.

- follow all instructions.

A C-range paper might have **some** of the following problems:

- the included plots are problematic (e.g., uninformative axis labels) or barely relevant.

- no display of consistent careful and critical thinking.

- no appropriate references.

- technical terms that are used incorrectly several times.

- be described accurately by only 1 of the following descriptors: clear, concise, well-organized, and engaging.

- be mostly inaccessible to someone who has finished Math 158 and received a B or better.

- no description/interpretation of important statistical findings in the context of the study.

- an incomplete understanding of the statistical methods discussed in class.

- a paper in need of basic editing: it may contain several typos and/or grammatical errors.

An unsatisfactory paper (D or F) might be incomplete or might have many of the problems that affect the C-range papers.