**EPRS 8530 Applied Research Project**

**Due: Thursday, December 2nd**

**In-Class Presentations Starting at 4:30 pm**

**Purpose**: The objectives of this project are to (1) apply basic statistical procedures (descriptive and inferential) to real data problems and (2) summarize the results. You will choose your own data and summarize the results of your project and analyses with a presentation to the class. Data may be obtained in various places, but please use data in such a way that you do not need IRB approval. You will use SPSS (or any other software of your choosing) to calculate statistics. The presentation should include a description of the study, method, results, and discussion/conclusions. **You are encouraged to work in pairs for this project (though you are not required to do so).** Please notify me who your partner is as soon as possible.

**Task:**

The following are the activities you will accomplish as you work through this assignment.

* Find a dataset
  + You can use the dataset you identified and described for the dataset description assignment earlier in the semester, if you are still interested in that dataset.
  + Check out ***public-use*** (not restricted-use) data on ICPSR (<https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/>), Harvard Dataverse (<https://dataverse.harvard.edu/>), or other data repositories online
    - Try to find *recent* data that is already provided in an SPSS data file. Ideally, the data was collected in the past 5 to 10 years.
    - Note that you need to create a *free* account to access data from **ICPSR**
* Compose research question(s) that can be “answered” using one of the following:
  + Independent-samples -test
  + Dependent-samples -test
  + One-way ANOVA
  + Bivariate correlation
  + Bivariate regression analysis
* Describe your research study and methods
* Analyze your data and report the results
* State your conclusions corresponding to the results of analysis

## Criteria for Success:

This assignment accounts for 15% of your overall course grade.

Be sure to address all required components listed on the following page. Clearly state the research question(s) and explain how the methodology chosen is appropriate to answer the question(s). Thoroughly describe the data source, including the variables used in the analysis and any data cleaning steps you took prior to analysis. Conclusions should be expressed clearly with correct usage of the statistical vocabulary. Once we have the final number of presentations set, I will let everyone know how long each group has to present.

**iCollege Submission**:

By Thursday, December 2nd at 11:59 pm, please upload the following files into the iCollege dropbox submission folder for this assignment:

1. Powerpoint slide deck used for your presentation
2. SPSS output from your analysis/analyses (or output from other software if not using SPSS).

**Project Grading Rubric**

| **Criteria** | **Points**  **Received** | **Maximum**  **Points** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Objectives / Background Section |  |  |
| Field of research identified – what subject matter area or discipline does your study fall within? |  | 0.5 |
| Research question(s) stated |  | 1 |
| Method Section |  |  |
| Description of data source(s) |  | 1 |
| Description of variables (including level of measurement) and what data cleaning steps were performed |  | 2 |
| Statement of analysis used |  | 0.5 |
| Why is choice of analysis appropriate to answer research question(s) |  | 2 |
| Discuss how variables are appropriate measures for analysis |  | 2 |
| Present alpha-level used and one-tailed or two-tailed test |  | 0.5 |
| Results Section |  |  |
| Present all relevant statistics pertaining to the chosen analysis |  | 1 |
| Statistical results correctly described and interpreted |  | 3 |
| Discussion Section |  |  |
| Conclusions drawn and any potential limitations discussed |  | 2 |
| What do your results imply for the identified field of research |  | 1 |
| Provide direction(s) for future research |  | 1 |
| Slide deck submitted to iCollege |  | 0.5 |
| SPSS output submitted to iCollege |  | 2 |

Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 20…..