***What do I want to learn in this class?***

I want to learn efficient and effective methods to observe the behavior of data.

I want to be modestly fluent in a few current and accepted methods that will be used by analysts, data scientists, engineers, and other similar people who are assigned the task of processing data. The manner of presenting the processed information will allow key decision makers to manage the implementation of the company’s mission.

I want to know that the risk of career changing at the age of sixty two was worth the effort and that my significant other doesn’t end up pulling me thru a cataclysmic divorce for spending an enormous amount of money for something that I didn’t finish, or pass or make use of in a career that I want to switch to.

***How will these skills help me in my career?***

I think that using excel is the better part of a data calculator that in an analytical fire fight will be a butt-saver. Statistics will give me confidence (beyond the interval) that the methods I am using, have professionally peer reviewed acceptance. The exposure to R will help me to process BIG, gianormous, massive, global, data quantities in an itty bitty coding space. I will return to my most stunning in a graduate project class – where I stormed into my prof’s office – told him that I had come up with a new and brilliant means of referencing large quantities of diverse but related data where the results would allow a manager to peruse quantities of related data elements and determine possible exceptions to statistically expected outcomes! I went thru the methods showed my element matrix – to which the prof replied – congrats Mr. Ortman you have just re-invented regression . . .