MA Research Commitment

Assignment 4, MA Preliminary Data Analysis / Results

Joshua Gary Mausolf and Nora Nickels

Due 11:59 PM CDT on February 8th

Requirements:

The MA Preliminary Data Analysis / Results should be a **5-7+ page (maybe more depending on how extensively you have analyzed your data so far)**, and clearly articulated paper, reviewing the (1) original research question and analytical plan and (2) preliminary summary statistics and results of your data analyses for the assignment. You must also include (3) works cited with your submission. The 5-7 page length requirement includes figures and tables but does not include the works cited.

Required Sections:

1. Restatement of Research Questions and Methods: ~1 page or less

Your research question and methods section should be an abbreviated version of your research question(s), what analyses you will conduct and have conducted, and the justification of those analytic methods. This likely would have been included as part of your Assignment 3.

- **Research Question(s)**

- **Analysis Method** Discuss what specific methods of analysis you have used. In other words, given your data and variables, what type of statistical or computational analysis you have used to demonstrate that a relationship exists between your primary independent variable and some outcome variable?

- **Analysis Justification** In addition to explaining what type of analyses you performed, please provide some justification of your proposed analytic methods. Here, you might both cite past authors who (A) developed the model you intend to use and (B) have used that model for a similar research design as your project. This section can be integrated with the above abbreviated analytic methods.

2. Data Analysis - Summary Statistics and Results: ~5-7 pages, maybe more depending on how extensively you have analyzed your data so far

- **Summary statistics for key variables**

- **Present initial (tentative results)**

- **Use tables and figures as appropriate** Your use of tables and figures should be supplemental to your results presented in text form. They should go hand-in-hand.

3. References (Works Cited)

Include an additional section of works cited. You should follow an accepted and consistent in-text citations and bibliography style such as ASA, APA, or Chicago.

Grading:

Grading will be based on:

- **Actually having data to analyze (and being appropriate for your question / theory)**
- **The implementation of an appropriate computational method given your research question**
- **Describing your data using appropriate methods to display summary statistics**
- **Presenting and explaining results accurately and clearly**
- **Tables and figures are not raw output from Python/R, but are properly formatted and labeled**

Submission

The assignment should be submitted in PDF format, attached to an email. The email should be sent to both Joshua Mausolf (jmausolf@uchicago.edu) and Nora Nickels (nnickels@uchicago.edu). This assignment is due by 11:59 PM, Central Time on February 8th.

Late submissions will be deducted one letter grade for every day they are late.