# INFO 1600 Assignment 1: Covid-19 Dashboard Review

**Due Date: end of Week 2 (Sunday, 11:59pm)**

Dashboards have been used to visually represent data for several years, but they have become much more visible during the Covid-19 pandemic. Where reliable data on cases, testing, and other related factors are publicly available, you are likely to find a dashboard designed to visualize this information for public consumption. This presents an opportunity to examine a wide range of dashboard-related strategies, from concepts of data visualization to the software used to create dashboards, and provides a large pool of existing work to get you thinking about the topics we will cover in this course.

For your first assignment, you will choose two Covid-19 dashboards and give some initial impressions of how effective they are. This will be somewhat subjective at this point, but as you progress in this course, you will learn the concepts behind creating effective data visualizations, and you may come to better understand your first impressions of these dashboards in the weeks to come. You can find Covid-19 dashboards created by some Canadian institutions, but they are more prevalent among universities in the United States. You will write a short comparative report, 1 – 2 pages in length, that discusses your chosen dashboards in terms of the following questions:

1. What kinds of data visualizations do you see? (for example: tables, bar graphs, line graphs, etc.)
2. Is there a description of the software used to create the dashboard? (there may not be)
3. Does the dashboard link to the underlying data it displays?
4. What elements did you think were effective in conveying information? What elements were less effective (if any)?
5. Which dashboard do you think was better at presenting this information to the pubic? Why do you think that?

**Submit your report as a Word document to the Assignment 1 dropbox on our eConestoga course site (Course Tools > Assignments > Assignment 1) by the Week 2 deadline**. **Make sure to provide the URLs of the dashboards you chose at the top of your report**.