

Frequently Asked Questions

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page in development

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Assignments

How do I complete the assignments?

Most homework assignments will come with a template to use. This will be a R markdown (*.Rmd) file for R users, and a Word document (*.doc) for SPSS users.

R users write their code and answers directly into the Rmd file. SPSS users will copy their code and relevant output into the Word doc, along with writing their answers in the Word doc directly.

All homework files must be compiled or converted to PDF before submission. R users **knit** their file to PDF, SPSS users will **save as** their Word document as PDF.

Links to the templates can be found in the homework assignment itself. A list of all assignment files can be found on the notes page.

How/where do I submit completed assignments?

Standard Assignments

- All assignments should be in PDF format.
- The file should be clearly named using this format: **assignment_userid.pdf**. E.g. **univ_graphics_rdonatello.pdf**
- Uploaded to the corresponding assignment folder in Google Drive.
- Assignments will be subject to peer review/comments
- Standard homework assignments just get checked off for completion.
 - I will still review and comment on each assignment, writing corrections and suggestions for improvement on the PDF itself.
- Once graded the file will be moved into the **graded** subfolder in Google Drive.
- Grades are recorded in Blackboard learn.

Project Assignments

- These assignments will be completed in Google Drive directly and will be peer reviewed.
- You also need to drop a note in the corresponding assignment in Blackboard learn when your document is ready for grading. This allows me to use a rubric for grading in addition to providing specific feedback on the document itself.
- Project assignments should be considered quality work and such refined, reviewed, and absolutely spellchecked before submission.

What are you looking for when you grade?

- Most assignments include examples directly in the assignment file itself.
- Correct english grammer, spelling, formatting.
- Concise, clear and complete answers.
- Correct statistical methods used

- That you answered the question posed.
- No extraneous output or code

Peer Review

Why do we do peer review?

- Everyone has different thought processes and may have approached the question from a different perspective that can help you learn the material.
- Co-authoring and reviewing your peers work is part of a professional research position.
- Learning how to provide good feedback will make you a better collaborator
- This is a delayed version of paired programming - another set of eyeballs can typically help you find your mistake.
- I have 10fold more assignments to review than you do.
 - You'll get your peer's reviews back faster than I can get yours back.
 - The more eyes on your document the better.
- I will be looking for different things than your peers will be. This is a good thing. They are looking from "untrained eyes", which can be very critical to make sure you are explaining yourself clearly. I can better "figure out" what you are meaning to say - they are the ones that will best tell you when/where you need to explain your findings better.

How do I conduct a Peer Review

1. Check the Peer Review Rotation spreadsheet to see who you are scheduled to review.
 - If one of your reviewees did not submit the assignment then pick another person to review.
2. Open the assignment file in Google Drive directly.
3. Change from "editing" to "suggesting" in the top right.
4. By editing the verbiage directly, or using comment bubbles, provide feedback to your peers.
 - Be specific. Give the type of feedback that you want to receive.
 - Minimum four corrections or suggestions for improvement. If it is reworking/grammar make these edits directly in the document.

Grading of peer reviews

As I do my reviews on the same document, I will be reading and assessing your peer review. If I find your review is not providing quality feedback to the author you will not receive credit for that review. You may see the cells in the peer review spreadsheet changing color as I check off your review.

Statistical Programming Help

R, R Studio, R Markdown

Online

- Chico R User Group
- UCLA IDRE [R Learning modules]
- R studio guides <https://www.rstudio.com/online-learning/>

In Person

- **Robin Donatello** - Stat professor. Holt 202.
- **Edward Roualdes** - Stat professor. Holt 204 - eroualdes@csuchico.edu
- **Community Coding** TWR 2-4pm, Yolo 206
- **Math Learning Lab (MLIB 4th floor)** Tutor Schedule TBD

SPSS

Online

- UCLA IDRE learning modules: <https://stats.idre.ucla.edu/spss/modules/>
- Kent State University: <https://libguides.library.kent.edu/SPSS>
- Sigma Plus SPSS Tutorials: <https://www.spss-tutorials.com/basics/>
- IBM Knowledge Center: https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/en/SSLVMB_24.0.0/statistics_spsstut_project_ddita-gentopic1.html

In Person

- David Philhour in Butte 213