

Week 1: Tools

Questions

Read and review your notes and my notes over questions in political science. Answer the review questions at the end.

Note that the review exercises form the basis of the quiz questions. If you can answer the review exercises, you can probably answer the exam questions.

Also, note that these review exercises won't take long, but take them seriously. As we settle into the semester, the assignments will become more difficult and take longer. As I mentioned on the first day, keeping up is key.

R

Read my notes on “Statistical Computing with R” (ch. 2 at the moment) and “Loading Data into R” (ch. 3 at the moment). Answer the review questions **th4oughout** the document as you work.

- This is a tedious assignment—you'll need to work carefully. I suggesting spreading the exercise over several different sessions to give you time to digest the ideas. Don't rush it. **These ideas are not particularly difficult, but they require you to work slowly and carefully.**
- Remember that Rob and I have extensive office hours and are available on Slack. If it seems like a simple error, we can sometimes offer a suggestion if you just share a screen shot.
- I try to write quiz questions that students who can do the review exercises will answer correctly and quickly (and that others will answer incorrectly and/or slowly).
- When you can't get your code to work, it's usually just a missing parenthesis, missing quotation mark, or something like that. It's not that you're making a huge mistake. Huamnns can sitll mkae snese wehn tehre are tpyos, but not computers! Check your code for typos carefully. Run your script one line at a time, from top to bottom, to find mistakes. As examples, most mistakes are like the following:

```
b <- c("Male", "Female) # missing the second " after "Female"
exp(23 # forgot to close a parentheses
log(10 base = 2) # missing comma between arguments

a <- c(1, 2, 3)
mean(A) # R is case-sensitive--there's an object "a", but no object "A"
mena(a) # misspelled function name, it should be "mean," not "mena"
Mean(a) # R is case-senstive--"Mean" and "mean" are different things.
```

Textbook and Calculator

Don't forget about your textbook and calculator (see the syllabus for the details). I think you should be able to find a copy for \$40 or less. A rental works just fine. I recommend a hard/physical copy rather than an e-book.