To Do:

1. Name & clean up code chunks
2. Add labels to graphs
3. Clean up first plot
4. Modelsummary instead of stargazer?

The final report will include the following sections:

1. **Introduction: 1-2 paragraphs describing the research question and main hypothesis; describe why it is important (2pts)**

* **where you introduce the research question**
* **hypothesis**
* **describe why it is interesting**

1. **Data section:** **2-3 paragraphs + plot visualizing main outcome of interest (3pts)**

* **briefly describes the data source**
* **describes how the key dependent and independent variables are measured (e.g., a survey, statistical model, or expert coding**
* **produces a plot that summarizes the dependent variable**
* **note if your research design is cross-sectional (most projects will be of this type) or one of the other designs we discussed (randomized experiment, before-and-after, differences-in-differences)**

1. **Results section**: **plot of main analysis + regression output + 2-3 paragraphs of description and interpretation of the plots and regression (including interpreting the main coefficient of interest and describing if it is statistically significant and if we should interpret it causally). This section could be longer if you choose to include additional analyses. (8pts)**

* **contains a scatterplot, barplot, or boxplot of the main relationship of interest and output for the main regression of interest**
* **interpret plots**
* **interpret (in plain English) the main coefficient of interest in your regression**
* **comment on the statistical significance of the estimated coefficient and whether or not you believe the coefficient to represent a causal effect**

1. **Conclusion:** 1 paragraph (i) summarizing results and assessing the extent to which you find support for your hypothesis; (ii) describing limitations of the analysis and threats to inference (missing data, confounding, etc), and stating how you could improve your analysis if you had more time/money. (2pts)

* summarizes your results
* assesses the extent to which you find support for your hypothesis
* describes limitations of your analysis and threats to inference
* states how your analysis could be improved (e.g., improved data that would be useful to collect).

1. **Additional:**

* **To earn full credit on the visualizations and regression output, they should use informative labels and names and have a small number of digits presented.**
* **Tables should use kable or modelsummary to format output nicely. Generally speaking, the final report should mostly be readable by a person who hasn’t taken Gov 50.**

That adds up to 15 out of 16 points. We reserve one point for students going above and beyond the basic requirements. This “great work” point can be earned in many ways:

* Using different datasets that must be merged before use.
* Presenting additional analyses that investigate the relationship further in terms of possible confounders or alternative explanations.
* Aesthetically pleasing visualizations (above and beyond what we learned in class)
* Maps
* Use of other packages not reviewed in class (excluding those for importing data)
* Clean code (i.e., proper indentation, naming chunks)
* No raw R output (all “prints” using kable or kable like functions)