Assignment 1: Introduction

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OVERVIEW

This exercise accompanies the introductory material in Environmental Data Analytics.

Directions

1. Change "Student Name" on line 3 (above) with your name.
2. Work through the steps, **creating code and output** that fulfill each instruction.
3. Be sure to **answer the questions** in this assignment document.
4. When you have completed the assignment, **Knit** the text and code into a single PDF file.
5. After Knitting, submit the completed exercise (PDF file) to the dropbox in Sakai. Add your last name into the file name (e.g., "Salk_A03_Introduction.Rmd") prior to submission.

The completed exercise is due on Tuesday, January 14th at 1:00 pm.

1) Discussion Questions

1. What are your previous experiences with data analytics, R, and Git? Include both formal and informal training.

   Answer: I have not had any previous experience with R nor Git. During undergrad, I took both Intro to Statistics and Strategies for Environmental Inquiry. In the latter, we covered the following: • Understand how and when to use fundamental quantitative and qualitative research methods, as well as recognize their limitations. • Use and interpret empirical design and fundamental statistical concepts in ecology and environmental studies, as well as recognize their limitations. • Understand a breadth of terminology on the scientific process, value systems, policy analysis, stakeholder analysis, and critical inquiry. Currently, I am working in NVivo, conducting qualitative analysis.

2. Are there any components of the course about which you feel confident?

   Answer: I feel confident in my ability to ask questions and put in extra work whenever/wherever needed, as working with quantitative data is relatively new to me. As a visual learner, I also feel fairly confident in my ability to visualize and communicate my findings from the data sets.

3. Are there any components of the course about which you feel apprehensive?

   Answer: Given I have not had a stats course in quite some time nor experience with R, I look forward to the laid out format of this class. I am looking forward to gaining proficiency in the language and application of R software, as it is an incresingly desired skillset within the private sector. Companies are working to further link sustainability and data science.

2) GitHub

Provide a link below to your forked course repository in GitHub. Make sure you have pulled all recent changes from the course repository and that you have updated your course README file.

   Answer: https://github.com/sfburch/Environmental_Data_Analytics_2020.git