

# Data Analysis Memo 1: The Question

Due 3/5

Submit 2-3 double-spaced pages on Blackboard (definitely not more than 3).

What question do you want to answer (with data) in your final project? The question should involve an independent variable X and a dependent variable Y, and your ultimate goal should be to find out what the causal effect of X on Y is (e.g. “What is the causal effect of X on Y?”). In addition to describing in some detail what the question is and why it’s interesting and important to answer it, you should also think about potential confounding variables and discuss them (e.g. if your research question is “What is the causal effect of college attendance on future earnings?”, one confounders might be parental wealth).