

- Don't slack off!!! You have to keep up with this every week. Watch the videos and take notes or go through each of them. The first half of the semester will be scary and you'll feel like you aren't doing anything right, but slowly and surely you will realize how much you've learned. The graph is the hardest part, the map gets so much easier!!!
- Watch the videos or read over the course page before class, and come to class knowing which parts aren't clicking. Ask peers or Simon with any problems before getting frustrated. It feels impossible at times but by the end of the course you will surprise yourself !
- The first part is hard, and you may not get it, even after watching the videos, but trust me it gets better and a lot easier. Make sure you watch the video, learn the terminology and take notes. Lots of notes.
- Going into the course, it may seem challenging and annoying to learn about. Especially being in the digital media and journalism program, you may think why do I need to learn coding but it really is beneficial. You can make some interesting discoveries by graphing and making a map. Simon is a really easy going guy and he is willing to make things as simple as possible. The graph is trickier to put together whereas the map is very straightforward if you follow all the pdf steps that Simon provides. My biggest advice is just ask Simon for help whenever you are struggling because the man teaching in R for Journalists goes too fast and it can be very frustrating to keep up with him. I also don't like his set up because his screen is too small and he types way too fast. It's hard to follow and lastly, SHOW UP to class! You'll learn so much more just by actually doing the codes yourself and Simon will hype you up and you'll feel nice.
- Make sure you watch and rewatch the videos. First, take notes and then try following along with your own data. It will be frustrating at first, because you didn't sign up to be a computer scientist in this program, but surprisingly R is a useful tool that you will actually use in the future (Especially if you go into PR or journalism). It's so much better than excel or data wrapper, because you actually get to customize your graphics, and also use this for your other assignments. Put a lot of effort into this, because it will seriously pay off.