data formats and conversion

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1. use your dataset–again if you do not have a dataset, email me (and possibly classmates): "Hi ! I would like to study ???, where can i find data?"
2. write code that would read these data into Stata, and then save it in at least 2 different formats
3. have a good look at your data by doing basic descriptive statistics; it is very important to get familiar with your data
4. don't forget to cd to working directory and avoid using paths to files
5. don't forget about preamble and comments; if you were already familiar with Stata or are a qucik learner, do more than asked above!

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how to put data online?

using google drive:

- go to `drive.google.com`
- first upload the file, then right-click on it and select "Share...", go to "Advanced" at the bottom-right of the window and then click "Change..." and check "On - Public on the Web" and hit "Save" button and "Done" button
- then right-click the file again and "Get shareable link", and paste link into dofile; it should look like `https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B5Y56f52-YHrMEpQX2` and then copy the FILE_ID from it, ie everything that follows "id="
- and then paste that FILE_ID into `https://docs.google.com/uc?id=FILE_ID&export=download`
- so it would become `https://docs.google.com/uc?id=0B5Y56f52-YHrMEpQX2ZwVDV0QVE&export=download`
- in this example it's a .dta file so to load it, you'd say
  use "https://docs.google.com/uc?id=0B5Y56f52-YHrMEpQX2ZwVDV0QVE&export=download"

other ideas: may try RU website `https://oit-nb.rutgers.edu/service/publishing-world-wide-web`
and many of thers:
`http://www.cloudwards.net/top-10-secure-dropbox-alternatives/`
`http://www.lifehack.org/articles/technology/running-out-room-dropbox-here-are-11-dropbox-alternatives-that-offer-way-more-free-cloud-sto`
`html`
`http://beebom.com/2015/03/best-dropbox-alternatives-for-cloud-storage`

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general directions (always the same):

- if asked to do sth by hand and you subset your data to few obs to do that, say 4 obs, do all the other stuff like descriptive stats for the full sample–it is way more interesting!
- when doing things by hand, show all the work, all the steps
- make it as easy on yourself as possible: round up numbers! simplify!
- if you calculate any meaningful number, say slope coefficient or t-stat, always interpret it!
- preferably use txt or pdf formats; doc(x) often messes up formatting
- do not submit more than 10 pages of the output (12pt font, single spaced)
- submit into the Sakai's dropbox; ps are due by the beginning of the next class unless indicated otherwise, eg "due in 2 weeks"; late ps are not accepted; if your writing is legible you can write by hand and then take a picture and submit that
- we are on the way to developing the final project with these ps: as we progress, your ps should start resembling a coherent and logical project where you use regression to answer interesting questions–say in few sentences why are you doing what you are doing–that is, answer the "so what question": what's the goal of all that, why are you doing this? you need a compelling justification for what you are doing; be brief, say couple sentences
- always submit dofile if you calculate anything in stata; because you are only submitting code (do not submit any datasets), it must load data from Internet–just put your data onto your own website, wordpress, google drive, etc
- always, cite your data (at minimum full name and url (if applicable))