

Homework: Choose Topic for Research Project

As mentioned on the syllabus, you must do a research project for the course. You can do the project individually or with another member of the class. The project will entail:

1. finding a paired dataset and applying some of the statistical techniques we have covered in the course (e.g., frequency distributions, sample statistics, linear regression)
2. writing a short paper discussing your dataset and your statistical analyses (4-6 pages, including graphs)

More details about the format of the paper will be provided. The paper will be due at the end of the semester.

The first step is **to choose a general topic that interests you**. This could be just about anything, since interesting data can be found related to any topic. Some ideas:

- sports, finance/economics, business, marketing, health care/public health, immigration, education, transit/transportation, politics, government, weather, internet/social media, music, law/crime, literature, psychology,

Homework Assignment (due Monday April 18): Hand in a piece of paper or send me a short email (sganguli@citytech.cuny.edu) with the following information:

1. Whether you will do a project individually or with a partner (if the latter, just hand in one writeup or send me one email)
2. The general area you would like to do a project on (e.g., economics)
3. If possible, a specific topic within that general area that could serve as a basis for a project (e.g., within economics, you might be interested in unemployment rates). Alternatively, ask me if you'd like suggestions for specific project topics.

Once you've chosen a specific topic, the next step will be to spend some time searching the web for specific examples of statistics/data within that area. That will be Part 2 of the project, which you will be asked to do over the Spring Break—further instructions will be provided next week.

Project Timeline:

- April 11-18: Choose general topic for project
- April 20-May 2: Choose specific topic and find dataset; hand in short project proposal
- May 2-9: Start doing statistical analyses; hand in outline of paper
- May 9-16: Finish statistical analyses; start writing paper
- May 16-23: Finish writing and hand in paper