Group D:
Measuring Involvement at CMU

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Agenda

- Purpose of Study
- Questionnaire
- Sample method
- Sample selection
- Future advice
- Current work
  - Glitches and successes
- Future work

Purpose

- CMU is not known for its school spirit
- Understand how groups form on campus:
  - Unify the student body
  - Improve attendance at school events
    - CMU sports teams, clubs, and the Tartan Rewards Program are potential clients
  - Benefit incoming classes of students and attract more students to Carnegie Mellon

Questionnaire

- Paper and Pencil survey
- Anonymous
- Question Topics:
  - Demographics
  - Involvement Score Variable
  - Predictor Variables

looking forward to hearing more about this in the report

Question Topic Examples

- Demographics
  - Age, Gender, Home School
- Involvement score variable questions
  - Number of Organizations, Level of Involvement within Organizations
- Predictor variables
  - Amount of time spent on work outside classes, specific activities they're participants of

Sample Method

- Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students are the target population
- Sampling frame is all undergraduate classes at Carnegie Mellon currently taught in Spring 2011
- Random clustered sample
- Random number generator to select undergraduate classes to sample
- Sampled all students in each selected class

Sample Selection

This is great and should all be in your report (in the main body or in an appx)

We approximated an 85% response rate.

N (Population)= 5,705 (figure provided in lecture)
Standard Deviation (SD)= .5 (worst case)
Margin of Error (ME)= .05

Sample size for SRS with replacement :
n_0= 384.2= 385

But since we're conducting SRS without replacement:
n≥ 360.6= 361

We inflated the sample size by 20% because we are doing clustered sampling:
n= 361*1.2= 433.2

Given our 85% response rate, our sample n is:
n= 433.2/0.85= 509.6= 510

This yields a sample size for individual students. how do you convert to a sample size for clusters (classrooms)?

Future Advice

- Consider the Pros and Cons of clustered vs. stratified sampling
- When randomly selecting classes from the Carnegie Mellon Schedule of Classes be sure to omit Graduate level classes
- Determine the average class size
- Remind Professors you are coming beforehand
- Bring enough surveys

Current Work

- Selected classes to sample
- Emailed Professors
- Visited seven of the eighteen to twenty classes
- Have classes set up to survey next week
- Set up method for coding the data into a spreadsheet

Glitches

- Getting Professors' permission
- Interpretation of questions
- Non-response rate is based on:
  - Professors' refusal to let us survey
  - Student refusal to take or complete survey
- Sending follow up emails to reduce non-response rate

I'm looking forward to reading about these in the final report! Especially (but not only) professor and studfent refusal rates

Successes

- Already surveyed over 100 students
- Low non-response rate within classes
  great!
- Minimum misunderstanding of survey
  great!

Future Work

- Continue surveying
- End date: April 1st or when we reach number of respondents needed for our sample
- Data input
- Analyze data and interpret results
  - Model “involvement score” based on variables
  - Identify trends within the data

Questions