
36-303: Sampling, Surveys and Society

Presentations
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Handouts:

- These Lecture Notes
- I will post hw05 on Friday online
- The following are posted as “Handouts on Writing & Speaking” at the class website:
 - Bem: On writing
 - Pueschel: On talks
 - Three examples of good 303 final papers

Outline

- Upcoming Events
- Oral Presentations
 - Presentation Mechanics
- Paper Outline
 - Paper Mechanics
- Presentation Order (Mar 22, 24, 29)

Upcoming Events

- **Mar 22, 24, 29:** Project Progress Reports
- **Fri Apr 1:** *Drafty draft* final reports due (email 1 pdf or doc file per team)
- **Fri Apr 1:** Meeting of the Minds Application Deadline
- **Thu Apr 7:** *Midterm Review*
- **Tue Apr 12:** Final Midterm Exam (in class; cumulative)
- **Thu Apr 14:** *Carnival!* No Class
- **Thu Apr 21, 26, 28:** Final Project Presentations
- **Fri Apr 29:** Final Papers due (email me 1 pdf or doc file per group)
- **May 4:** Meeting of the Minds (for those participating)

Oral Presentations

- *Progress reports next week should include*
 - **Introduction:** What's it about?
 - Research Question & Motivation
 - Questionnaire, or at least a couple sample questions from it
 - **Body:** Describe the work you have done so far
 - How sample was selected... Any advice for future 303 students?
 - How survey was set up and respondents contacted
 - Glitches? How did you fix 'em?
 - What is the nonresponse or refusal rate so far? How will you decrease it?
 - What are the distinguishing features of nonresponders/refusers?
 - Successes? Tell us.
 - **Conclusion:** Future work – what's left to do?
 - When will you / did you cut off data collection?
 - What post-processing and/or analyses will you perform?
(*nonresponse, poststratification, answering your research questions, etc.*)
 - Anything else?
 - *Length and Presentation*
 - Three teams per lecture (order on last slide of this talk)
 - 15 minutes per group
 - At least 2 “real” slides by each team member
 - 5 min or so Q&A after each presentation
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Presentation Mechanics

- Bring your presentation as ppt or pdf on a usb memory stick
- Make sure it works on a Windows PC (sometimes graphics from Macs won't display in Windows)
- See handout [online] on advice for talks
 - Handout is great but doesn't emphasize enough:
 - practice, practice, practice, practice, practice ...

Paper Outline

- Section 1: Introduction
 - Research Question and Motivation
 - Citations to literature on this topic
 - Quick summary of main results from Section 4
- Section 2: Methods
 - Target population, frame, sample design/methods, sample size
 - Number of respondents contacted, number of respondents, other nonresponse/refusal information
 - A few questions from your questionnaire (full questionnaire, contact letter(s), informed consent statement, etc, in appendices)
 - Post-survey processing
 - Other relevant information from the body of your progress report talk
- Section 3: Results (may or may not be longer than Section 2!)
 - Restate research question(s), show statistical analyses, discuss how they answer each research question (gory stat details in another appendix!)
- Section 4: Discussion
 - Overall discussion of research questions, how well survey answered them
 - Any surprising, or expected, results
 - Strengths and weaknesses of your survey; recommendations for future
 - Take-home message(s)
- List of References
- Appendices

Paper Mechanics

- Read carefully the handout by Bem on writing an empirical research paper.
 - Make your paper conform to his advice and examples **as much as possible**
- I expect there to be holes in your “Drafty Draft” on Thu Apr 1.
 - Most of Sections 1 and 2 should be complete
 - The rest of the paper depends on work you haven’t done yet, so there should be many holes.
 - For each hole, write a paragraph detailing what you plan to do to fill the hole (put the paragraph in bold or italic, or box it or something so I know it is “plans” and not part of the actual paper text).

Order of Presentations Mar 22, 24, 29

- Tue Mar 22:
 - **Group B**: Alcoholic Energy Drinks
 - **Group E**: Accuracy of Bus Schedules
 - **Group G**: Faculty Attitudes toward Plus/Minus Grading
- Thu Mar 24:
 - **Group D**: Student Involvement at Carnegie Mellon
 - **Group H**: Undergrad Prospects After Graduation
 - **Group A**: Changing Majors: Why and How Much?
- Tue Mar 29:
 - **Group C**: Faculty Survey: Student Attendance vs Performance
 - **Group F**: Caffeine Consumption Among Students
 - **Group I**: What do Elementary School Children Know About Architecture?