

Research Methods in Political Science I – Final Project

Assignment: Based on what you have learned in the course, conduct a data analysis related to political science (broadly defined). You may try replicating or reproducing the previous research by others. You must complete the following three tasks.

1. Submit your research plan and the dataset
2. Present your results in class
3. Write and submit a research paper

I will explain what you should do in detail below.

1 Research Plan and Dataset

- First, choose a research question to answer for the project
- Then, gather data to answer your research question
- Write your research plan (the research question and how to tackle the problem) in a short paper (1–2 pages). Please specify which variables you will use in your analysis
- Submit the short paper *and* the dataset

Deadline: 9am on 22 December 2015

How to submit: Send as an email attachment

Email subject: Research Methods 1, Final 1

File name of the paper: final-plan-YourName.pdf

- Notes
 - Dataset should be in CSV format

- If the size of your dataset is huge (say, larger than 5 mega byte), please contact me before sending the dataset
- If you collect data by some computer programs, you can submit the program codes instead of the dataset itself
- If your dataset is public (e.g, one available at Dataverse), please explain where and how you get the dataset in the write-up *without* sending me the dataset itself.

2 Presentation

- Present your main finding(s) in class on 27 January 2016
- Each presentation must be less than 3 minutes
- 2–3 min. Q&A session follows each presentation
- Prepare *a* slide summarizing your finding(s). It must be a 1-page PDF file.

Deadline: 9am on 27 January 2016

How to submit: Send as an email attachment

Email subject: Research Methods 1, Final 2

File name of the slide: final-presentation-YourName.pdf

3 Final Paper

- Write and submit a research paper
 - Length of the paper: less than 30 pages including everything.
 - The paper does not have to be a complete research paper. For this project, you do not have to review the literature or construct your theory.

Rather, you are allowed to present your hypotheses at the beginning of the paper.

- The paper must have a complete data analysis sections, which include (but are not limited to) the explanation of statistical models, the data analysis results, and *substantive* interpretation of the results.
- You have to mention in the text all the figures and tables included in the paper. The figures and tables you do not explain in the body text will not be evaluated.
- You can (but do not have to) use colors for your figures.
- Submit R codes in R scripts or R Markdown files. If you prefer using Stata (Python), submit do files (Python scripts).
 - Your research must be completely reproducible
 - Figures and tables must be reproducible too.
- Submission

Deadline: 9am on 8 February 2016

How to submit: Send as an email attachment

Email subject: Research Methods 1, Final Paper

File name of the paper: `final-paper-YourName.pdf`

File names of codes: Please give an appropriate name to each file. You should understand fairly well what names are good at this point.

No late submission will be accepted.