

BMCC MAT150.722 Project Draft

This is the second step of your project. It is due Tuesday May 3rd. It is worth **5** of a total 25 points for your project. Each point of your project grade corresponds to a point on your final grade. This part of the project should be *at least* three pages, remember that you do not get points for pages, you get points for content. Your submission must be typed, double spaced and stapled. You must submit both digital and paper copies. If you cannot hand in your draft in class on the due date for any reason you must submit the digital copy by email¹ and place the paper copy in my box in N520. **No late work will be accepted.**

General guidelines

Your paragraphs should be well-written in complete sentences. If your paper is hard to understand due to poor grammar, then it will be hard for me to give you a good grade. Therefore, it must also be reasonably grammatically correct. Your paper should include things which are interesting; in particular, you should write something you would want to read. Further, your paper is about your topic, not simply what you think about your topic. In other words, I-statements, such as, “I calculated the mean,” are unacceptable. Also general discussion on why statistics is important is unacceptable. For the purposes of this project this is taken as a given, and each sentence you write should pertain directly, specifically to your topic.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is strictly prohibited and can result in expulsion. Do not do it, just say “no.” As a consequence, you must have a bibliography, citing your sources of information. The more sources there are for a particular piece of information, the more believable it is. You may use Wikipedia as a source; however, if your paper consists merely of facts available on Wikipedia your grade will suffer.

Grading

This assignment is worth five points total. Each section, each at least a paragraph long, (**Background, Methods and Results**) will be worth a point. Overall, grammar is worth

¹My email address is dblair@gc.cuny.edu

a point. This is your first revision, so a few errors are unavoidable. Lastly, one point will be based on how closely I feel you followed these directions. If you have a question about the instructions then you should ask for clarification.

Background

You should be as detailed as possible and attempt to include information about your data set that is not immediately obvious. You should include information that answers the questions, “Who produced the data?” “What is the data?” “Where does the data come from?” and “How was the data collected?”

Methods

This section should discuss which statistical methods you are using to justify your claim. You should include any calculations and figures in this section.

Results

This should be a summary of your conclusions. This is *not* the concluding paragraph of your paper, although it is the last section for this assignment. You should discuss some consequences of your claim and suggest topics related to your data set for future study.

Data Sets

You should use one of the following data sets for your project. You will need to provide a proper reference. See Wikipedia’s page on citation for guidelines on making good citations: <http://is.gd/8GgZKg>. The following data sets are acceptable for use on this project:

- <http://is.gd/4Bqlf4>
- <http://is.gd/6cCmsB>
- <http://is.gd/vkXPBz>
- <http://is.gd/F5c3c2>
- <http://is.gd/yyphfc>

Once you submit your draft I will give you suggestions on how to improve it. Good luck!