

**Policy Brief Proposal**  
Due February 5, 2018, in class on paper

Data Visualization Using R  
Spring 2018

There are three main options for this project

1. Re-write an existing policy brief

This can be anything you find of interest that could be improved with better data graphics. The Trachtenberg School's job outcomes are one example, in an analytical, rather than boosting, context.

Remember that you are looking for something that is relatively short and quantitative.

2. Work with the Lab @ DC on a topic of mutual interest

A senior person from Lab @ DC is coming in next week to talk about options for collaboration. Look at their website and DC's open data site and come prepared with questions if this is of interest.

3. Create your own

Find a topic of interest, identify the relevant data, and write up a policy brief.

If you are planning to work in a pair, you should let me know at the proposal stage.

Your goal is to produce between 5 and 8 relevant graphics and text that supports those graphics in telling a policy story.

The very highest grades are reserved for projects that are the most ambitious in data, though they need not be large in scope. You can earn an A- with an excellent re-do of someone else's work.

Some policy brief examples

- "Effects of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit,": right idea, but more graphics
- "Distributional Analysis of the Conference Agreement for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,"  
Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center