

Policy Brief and Presentation Final Instructions

Data Visualization Using R
Spring 2021
Leah Brooks

Due Dates

Recorded presentations due to google drive 48 hours before class discussion of presentation
Final papers are due Monday, May 3 by midnight

Turn in all assignments to the “for students” [google folder](#). Specific links are below.

I will check date stamps and will sadly take off credit for late assignments.

Plagiarism

Don't do it!

Please remember that it is your responsibility to use your own words, both in the presentation and in the policy brief. If you are confused about what plagiarism is, do not use this assignment as an experiment. See the very helpful University of Wisconsin page (<https://bit.ly/2V3mF42>) about appropriate and inappropriate paraphrasing, or be in touch.

Presentations

Presentation logistics

- You are in either group 1, 2, or 3 – see list at end
- Each class, half of your group will either present or comment
- Each presenter or group has **five minutes**
 - If you go a few seconds over, that's fine
 - But don't go 30 seconds over
 - Think carefully about what you can fit in this time limit
- Record your presentation – like I record my lectures, but hopefully better
 - You can use powerpoint's recording
 - I've used loom.com (free)
 - For class, I use OBS studio
 - Use whichever software is easiest for you
- 48 hours before your presentation will be discussed in class, post
 - the recording of the slides
 - the slides themselves (any format is ok)
 - in the [presentations folder](#) (inside the for_students folder)
 - in your group's folder, in the “presentations” subfolder
 - naming convention is [last name]_presentation.[whatever]
- Post pdfs/ppts/slides/files in the same location

- Naming convention is [last name]_slides.ppt/pdf/whatever
- If you have links to the recording or slides, instead of a file, create a google doc named [last name]_recording or [last name]_presentation_link and put the link in that google doc

Presentation substance

- Your key remit is to tell a story with data using data graphics
- Grades are based on how well you do this
- There are multiple paths to a successful presentation
- Make slides
- Remember
 - that slides for a presentation may differ from slides you'd use for a paper presentation
 - that clear graphs use annotations
- Refer to the handout for the fully composed chart
- Use what we've discussed in class (see Knafllic for ideas) to make the structure of the presentation that works best to convey your ideas

Comments logistics

- If you are not recording a presentation for class, you are writing comments
- Before class starts, submit written comments to the "comments" subfolder of your group's presentation folder (linked above)
- Name feedback [your lastname]_on_[presenter last name]

Comments substance

- Your job is to give feedback to people in your presentation group (list at the end)
- If you're writing in a group, I put all pairs in one group; each group member should write comments on the two other presentations
- Something in the half-a-page range; quality is preferred to quantity. Don't be too nice!

Policy Brief

Final Product

Your mandate for this assignment is to

- write a 5 to 10 page brief
- with 5 to 8 graphics (no fewer than 5; more than 8 is ok)
- graphics count in the page limit; they should be embedded into your brief
- make visualizations in R
- use data that require some form of aggregation
 - this could be individual-level data and you write about averages
 - this could be neighborhood-level data and you write about cities
 - this could be city-level data and you write about cities on average
- Use any citation method that allows use to find the data/literature you are citing.
- All graphs should be self-explanatory – look to the “fully composed chart” assignment to see the elements that make up a “complete” chart
- Your grade is determined by how well you use data graphics to tell a compelling story

What to turn in

- turn in your .R script
- your policy brief in pdf form
- Both are due May 3 by midnight to the [“final policy brief” folder](#) in the “for_students” folder in google drive
- Create a subfolder named [your last name]_[your first name]
- Inside this subfolder, name files as
 - [lastname [and other last name, if applicable]]_brief.pdf
 - [lastname [and other last name, if applicable]]_Rscript.R

Examples From Previous Years

There are excellent policy briefs and presentations posted on the course website. Go to the resources tab, then “Previous Years’ Most Successful Policy Briefs.”

One of the previous year’s classes was smaller and therefore had longer presentations. You should not expect to convey as much content as in those presentations.

Groups

Last Name	First Name	Email	Group	Presentation date	Feedback date
Hein	Sarah	smhein14@gwu.edu	1	April 26	April 29
Bruce	Preston	prestonbruce@gwu.edu	1	April 26	April 29
Maddock	Trinady	tmaddock@gwu.edu	1	April 29	April 26
Wilberforce	Winifred	wwilberforce61@gwu.edu	1	April 29	April 26
Murphy	Maureen	maureenmurphy@gwu.edu	2	April 26	April 29
Campbell	Detrick	dcampbell96@gwu.edu	2	April 26	April 29
Colavito	Anthony	anthonycolavito@gwu.edu	2	April 29	April 26
Kaidbey	Jasmine	kaidbey@gwu.edu	2	April 29	April 26
Thompson	Eleanor	ethompson@gwu.edu	3	April 26	April 29
Carney	Gabriel	gecarney10@gwu.edu	3	April 26	April 29
Onwukwe	Bianca	biancaonwukwe@gwu.edu	3	April 26	April 29
Martin	Kai	kaikmartin@gwu.edu	3	April 29	April 26
Palmer	Stephanie	spalmer1496@gwu.edu	3	April 29	April 26