

Policy Brief and Presentation Final Instructions

Data Visualization Using R
Summer 2022
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Due Dates

Presentations due to google drive 2 hours before presentation. This means by 4:10 on July 20.

Final papers are due Wednesday, July 27 by 6 pm.

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.

Please be in touch with questions. It is better to ask before than suffer the consequences after!

Presentations

Presentation logistics

- Each presenter has five minutes
- You will set yourself a timer that will ring when the time is up.
- By 4:10 pm the day of your presentation, post your slides to the “for students” google folder
 - Use the “presentation turn-in” subfolder
- I'll load presentation slides to my computer for the class
- Use any format that you can upload to google drive and that I can download
- Be prepared for questions from the audience and from me

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

- Because this presentation is only five minutes, you need not (and probably should not) use all of the graphics from your presentation
- 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

- Each student writes comments on two other presentations
- Submit feedback by 6 pm July 21 to the same folder as in the presentation instructions
 - use the "presentation comments turn-in" subfolder
- Name feedback [your lastname]_on_[presenter last name]
- The more constructive the feedback, the more helpful
- I will assign the presentations on which you'll comment

Comments Substance

- Something in the half-a-page range; quality is preferred to quantity. Don't be too nice!

(next)

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
- At the top, under your name(s) please write a little phrase that describes how you aggregated data (e.g., “I used city-level data to make state average high temperature.”)
- 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 July 27 by 6 pm 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.