

## Term project (assigned 5 Oct, due 28 Nov – 7 Dec)

This is necessarily a broad assignment. Your assignment is to present some work that you are doing (or have done, or will do) in some detail, with particular attention to presenting the errors and data analysis, using skills and techniques that we have covered in this class. You should discuss how you have adapted the general techniques we have covered in class to your specific topic. Just about anything is fair game, but your presentation should focus on original work that *you* are doing (or have done, or will do).

Each student will give a presentation to the class. Your presentation should be 10 minutes or so. This means you can present the context of your project and your method of data collection, so that we can understand what you have done/are doing. Then you should present *in detail* your data analysis techniques. This is the kind of gory detail that you would never give in a colloquium or seminar, but we want to know, and we want to see your skills in action in real-life data situations.

Everyone should sign up for a presentation slot; sign-ups will be available starting on October 19. We have four class meeting slots after Thanksgiving, and we'll have six presentations in each of those four class meetings. Your presentation should be professional, with good slides, a coherent presentation of the material, and so on. Please make sure you practice your talk.

I would encourage you to come talk to me about the work you are doing as well as about your presentation. I would also encourage you to talk to your research supervisor. I hope that this assignment allows you to advance your research project, which would make it a win-win situation for everyone involved.

If you are not presently involved in a research project, you have a few options. You could present work from a research project that you previously worked on. You could do a little digging on a research project that you hope to be involved in and use this opportunity to get started on the research work; in this case you should ask your research advisor for some data to play with. You could go read some journal articles and pick any project and data that you find interesting and present that. If you get really, really stuck, come talk to me; I've got lots of data that needs analyzing.

I probably won't ask for any written materials in addition to your presentation, but if you have handouts or written materials just for me that you think would be useful, feel free to prepare them.