

## Further details about project

The due date for the project is April 18 by 10:00 p.m. This applies to the written report and the short summary or video presentation of your project. Then, over the next few days, students should read the summaries or watch the videos of others' presentations and give comments on them (more details below). The comments will be due by 11:59 pm on the last day of classes, April 22.

For the written report, there are some suggestions on the already posted guidelines about what to include. A little bit of background about the data set and the statistical problem of interest is always good! And since this is a Bayesian analysis, some description of how your prior information was incorporated would be good. You should aim for no more than 5 typed pages for your project. The length suggestion refers to no more than 5 pages for the text; this limit does not include any plots/graphs or R output you may want to include for illustration. The main project report can be turned in via Blackboard as usual.

If you choose to do a video presentation: This should be a chance for you to orally present your data set, model, prior choices, and findings to your audience (i.e., your classmates and me). I want to be very clear that for the presentation component, you will be graded NOT on how high-tech the presentation is, but ONLY on the content of what you say/show and how clearly you explain it. If you want to make slides and speak as you scroll through them, be my guest, but you DO NOT have to do this. If you can make a cellphone video of yourself (or yourselves) speaking about your project, that is absolutely fine. You may want to be able to show some plots and results for illustrations in your presentations, but this could certainly be in a low-tech way like showing hard-copy printouts for the camera. The only thing that matters technology-wise is that the viewer is able to see what you want to show and to hear you. If you work in a group, make sure that each group member makes a meaningful contribution to the oral presentation.

If you choose to do a written summary: You can type a written summary of at least one page in which you explain the basic background of your data set, the research question you hoped to investigate in your study, the modeling choices you made, your major findings, etc. It should not be as detailed as the project report, but it should give a basic idea about your project for someone who was not able to read your entire report.

I will set up a discussion board in the STAT 535 Blackboard site in which you can create a thread in the discussion board and post a link to your video (if you do one) or attach your written summary.

As for the comments, each person will be required to make comments on 8 other presentations. Making legitimate and meaningful comments on 8 other presentations will give you full credit for the "comment" component of the project. In addition, you may comment on MORE than 8 presentations for a small amount of extra credit; you will get a limited number of extra points for each additional presentation that you comment on.

When I ask for meaningful comments, I am asking for comments that have specific details that make it clear that you have watched the presentation or read the summary carefully. Saying "Great job, I really liked it!" would not count as a meaningful comment. Your comments could be positive or could be suggestions for possible improvements. If you have suggestions for improvement, remember to state them in a kind, encouraging, and constructive way, hopefully also including some positive comments as well. It's also a good lesson that when you receive constructive criticism about your work, don't take it personally: Just evaluate the criticism and dispassionately consider whether or not it makes sense. Sometimes the critic has a point, sometimes not.

Grade Breakdown (Total Project Grade is out of 75 points):

Notification/Data Proposal: 5 points

Report: 50 points

Summary or Video Presentation: 12 points

Comments: 8 points

Extra Credit:  $2 \cdot \ln(N)$  points for commenting on N additional summaries or presentations (beyond 8)