

Math 372: First preliminary report for group projects

February 21, 2020

Your preliminary report should meet the following conditions.

- Length: 1.5–3 pages (with standard font and margin sizes)
- Format: You should include a title, list of authors, and date at the beginning. The title should be in the format “First Preliminary Report: [project title]”. You should separate sections with section headings. You should give full citation information for any citations used, including to data sources. I will not prescribe a specific citation format; you may use whichever you prefer (MLA, APA, Chicago style, etc.).
- Contents: Your report should include sections about the following.
 - An overview of your project. What are you investigating? What specific questions do you hope to answer? Why is it interesting?
 - Say what data sources you are using. What data do you have? What format is it in? Do you have all the data you will need, or do you still need more? If so, how will you get the extra data?
 - What work do you still have to do? What is your plan to accomplish that work? (We haven’t yet covered in lecture the statistical tools you can use, so it is okay if this section is not overly specific.)
 - Do you anticipate any obstacles in completing the project? If so, what are they and how do you plan to overcome them.

Grading rubric: 100 points total.

- Mechanics (10 points): Adhere to the rules of formal English writing.
- Format (10 points): Follow the formatting requirements from above, including the length requirement.
- The remaining 80 points are for content, broken up according to each of the above required sections. You should provide the asked-for information.
 - Overview section (25 points).
 - Data source section (25 points).
 - Remaining work section (20 points).
 - Anticipated obstacles section (10 points).