

## Assignment 4

The purpose of this assignment is to apply what you have learned this term to a full research paper/report. The topic of the paper is up to you; but it should include the sections listed below. You may choose to build on the analyses you have been conducting this semester or you may explore an entirely new topic. The word counts given below are approximate; this is a short empirical paper that should be around 10 pages not including references, tables, and the appendix.

1. Introduction (300 words)
  - a. State the purpose of your research and why it is important
  - b. Summarize the paper including the data sources you used
2. Literature review (600 words)
  - a. Briefly summarize the relevant literature using at least 4 empirical peer reviewed journal articles.
  - b. Use the literature to frame your research question(s) and to set up your hypotheses
3. Research questions & hypotheses (250 words)
  - a. Present each of your hypotheses
4. Data (250 words)
  - a. Describe your data source
5. Measures (400 words)

Present the variables you are using including

  - a. the concepts they measure,
  - b. their level of measurement,
  - c. the categories of each variable, and
  - d. any recoding that you did.
6. Analysis (300 words)
  - a. Describe each analysis you conducted to test your hypotheses and answer your research question(s).
  - b. Explain why you conducted each analysis.
7. Results (500 words)
  - a. Present the relevant descriptive statistics for your variables. Make sure to reference a table of descriptive statistics.
  - b. Describe the results of your analyses. Make sure to reference a table of relevant findings.
8. Discussion and Conclusion (750 words)
  - a. Remind the reader of your research question(s) and hypotheses.
  - b. Discuss your findings in relation to your research question(s) and hypotheses.
  - c. Refer back to your literature review to contextualize your findings.
  - d. Summarize any limitations of your research.
  - e. Discuss the implications of your findings for practice.
9. References
  - a. List all references cited in your paper in APA format.

10. Tables

- a. Create an APA formatted table of descriptive statistics
- b. Create at least one APA formatted table of your findings.

11. Appendix

- a. Attach your SPSS syntax here.