

# 36-303: Sampling, Surveys and Society

Presentations  
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1

## Handouts:

- These Lecture Notes
- I will post hw05 on Friday online
- The following are posted as “Handouts on Writing & Speaking” at the class website:
  - Bem: On writing
  - Pueschel: On talks
  - Three examples of good 303 final papers

17 March 2011

2

## Outline

- Upcoming Events
- Oral Presentations
  - Presentation Mechanics
- Paper Outline
  - Paper Mechanics
- Presentation Order (Mar 22, 24, 29)

17 March 2011

3

## Upcoming Events

- **Mar 22, 24, 29:** Project Progress Reports
- **Fri Apr 1:** Drafty draft final reports due (email 1 pdf or doc file per team)
- **Fri Apr 1:** Meeting of the Minds Application Deadline
- **Thu Apr 7:** Midterm Review
- **Tue Apr 12:** Final Midterm Exam (in class; cumulative)
- **Thu Apr 14:** Carnival! No Class
- **Thu Apr 21, 26, 28:** Final Project Presentations
- **Fri Apr 29:** Final Papers due (email me 1 pdf or doc file per group)
- **May 4:** Meeting of the Minds (for those participating)

17 March 2011

4

## Oral Presentations

- *Progress reports next week should include*
  - **Introduction:** What's it about?
    - Research Question & Motivation
    - Questionnaire, or at least a couple sample questions from it
  - **Body:** Describe the work you have done so far
    - How sample was selected... Any advice for future 303 students?
    - How survey was set up and respondents contacted
    - Glitches? How did you fix 'em?
    - What is the nonresponse or refusal rate so far? How will you decrease it?
      - What are the distinguishing features of nonresponders/refusers?
    - Successes? Tell us.
  - **Conclusion:** Future work – what's left to do?
    - When will you / did you cut off data collection?
    - What post-processing and/or analyses will you perform?  
(*nonresponse, poststratification, answering your research questions, etc.*)
    - Anything else?
- *Length and Presentation*
  - Three teams per lecture (order on last slide of this talk)
  - 15 minutes per group
  - At least 2 “real” slides by each team member
  - 5 min or so Q&A after each presentation

17 March 2011

5

## Presentation Mechanics

- Bring your presentation as ppt or pdf on a usb memory stick
- Make sure it works on a Windows PC (sometimes graphics from Macs won't display in Windows)
- See handout [online] on advice for talks
  - Handout is great but doesn't emphasize enough:
    - practice, practice, practice, practice, practice ...

17 March 2011

6

## Paper Outline

- Section 1: Introduction
  - Research Question and Motivation
  - Citations to literature on this topic
  - Quick summary of main results from Section 4
- Section 2: Methods
  - Target population, frame, sample design/methods, sample size
  - Number of respondents contacted, number of respondents, other nonresponse/refusal information
  - A few questions from your questionnaire (full questionnaire, contact letter(s), informed consent statement, etc, in appendices)
  - Post-survey processing
  - Other relevant information from the body of your progress report talk
- Section 3: Results (may or may not be longer than Section 2!)
  - Restate research question(s), show statistical analyses, discuss how they answer each research question (gory stat details in another appendix!)
- Section 4: Discussion
  - Overall discussion of research questions, how well survey answered them
  - Any surprising, or expected, results
  - Strengths and weaknesses of your survey; recommendations for future
  - Take-home message(s)
- List of References
- Appendices

17 March 2011

7

## Paper Mechanics

- Read carefully the handout by Bem on writing an empirical research paper.
  - Make your paper conform to his advice and examples **as much as possible**
- I expect there to be holes in your “Drafty Draft” on Thu Apr 1.
  - Most of Sections 1 and 2 should be complete
  - The rest of the paper depends on work you haven't done yet, so there should be many holes.
  - For each hole, write a paragraph detailing what you plan to do to fill the hole (put the paragraph in bold or italic, or box it or something so I know it is “plans” and not part of the actual paper text).

17 March 2011

8

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## Order of Presentations Mar 22, 24, 29

- Tue Mar 22:
  - **Group B**: Alcoholic Energy Drinks
  - **Group E**: Accuracy of Bus Schedules
  - **Group G**: Faculty Attitudes toward Plus/Minus Grading
- Thu Mar 24:
  - **Group D**: Student Involvement at Carnegie Mellon
  - **Group H**: Undergrad Prospects After Graduation
  - **Group A**: Changing Majors: Why and How Much?
- Tue Mar 29:
  - **Group C**: Faculty Survey: Student Attendance vs Performance
  - **Group F**: Caffeine Consumption Among Students
  - **Group I**: What do Elementary School Children Know About Architecture?