Hi again,

I am making a couple of minor changes to the plan for the course. I’m going to switch Tuesday and Thursday activities, so that Tuesday becomes workshop day and Thursday will be for lectures, exercises, demonstrations and the like. And we will try to use Classroom Salon from the start of the course.

Here is an assignment to complete before Tuesday:

1. Go to classroomsalon.com, sign up for classroom salon, search for the “Writing in Statistics” salon, and join it. Classroom salon lets you post pdf’s and others in the salon can read, mark up and comment on the pdf. We will use it both for readings related to class, and for review of your writing by others in the class. As soon as everyone has joined, I will make the salon private so that anyone in the class can see content there, but others outside class cannot.
2. Once you are in the “writing in statistics” salon, make a folder for yourself (with your name).
3. Upload into your folder two things:
   1. A text or pdf file with answers to the questions below;
   2. A pdf of the current state of whatever document your writing project for this course will focus on.

Anyone can look at anyone else’s materials, so feel free to look at and comment on others’ uploads if you wish.

Please do this by Monday at 10pm. I will start looking at what you uploaded when I get home from another commitment Monday night.

Here are the questions to answer for 3(a):

1. PROJECT: A suitable writing project for the course is 10-50 pages, something like a thesis chapter, thesis proposal, ADA report, grant proposal, paper for a journal, etc. A large part of the underlying research should be done, but your current document might be in early stages or perhaps further along. It does not work well if you don’t have something to write about.   
     
   Tell me what your writing project will be for this course (and don’t forget to upload your current draft to Classroom Salon).
2. PURPOSE: Tell me what is the purpose of your writing project. I don't mean an administrative purpose like "this is how I get my PhD" but rather a communication purpose: why is it important to communicate the specific information you are (or will be) writing about? For what reader(s) are you writing? (Again, things like “my thesis advisor” is not necessarily a good answer.) Etc.
3. YOU: Tell me something about yourself:
   * What do you like about writing in Statistics (or technical writing generally)? What do you find most challenging about it?
   * How often do you write, for your project or similar kinds of writing? Once a day? Once a week? Only when you "have" to?

Depending on what you upload, I may want to make an appointment to speak with you one-on-one; in any case we will meet (perhaps briefly) as a class on Tuesday.