**Instructions for How To Complete Your Five 4-% SPSS Assignments**

SPSS assignments are to be completed through Virtual Labs:

<https://www.csi.cuny.edu/online-resources/office-information-technology-services/computer-labs-multimedia-classrooms/virtual-computer-labs>

You will need to turn in five SPSS assignments, each worth 4%. ***This is not for extra credit. The SPSS assignments are worth a total of 20% of your grade*.** You have to pick five different data sets (from the back of your book but NOT assigned for homework or discussed in class, or you can make up your hypothetical experiment). You have to pick five different types of tests (e.g, one-sample t test, independent-measures t test, one-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, and correlation). I will grade the assignments for accuracy. You can earn 0 to 4% on each of the five SPSS Assignments. Start with this early so I can give you feedback before they are graded.

Every student has ***free*** access to SPSS (do NOT pay for software!) from home or off-campus through CSI. Go to the Virtual-Labs link provided above. Tables or smart phones are NOT recommended for doing your SPSS. Because it may be a little bit frustrating initially to get everything set up and learn how to use it, please, do not wait until the night before the final to complete these assignments. I recommend that you start immediately right after I introduced SPSS in our class meetings (probably after the midterm; I’ll walk you through it, give examples, etc.). You can send me “drafts” throughout the semester, and I will happily give you feedback. This way, you are almost guaranteed full credit for the SPSS assignments, IF and only IF, you work on this proactively. At the very end of the semester, I will not have time to address everyone’s questions about all assignments, and I won’t be able to give detailed feedback anymore late in the semester. I can also not solve tech problems for you. I am not an IT expert.

**Steps/components of the assignment that are required and will be graded:**

(1) Run the test on SPSS and get a pdf file of the SPSS output.

(2) For each test, write either on the pdf file directly, if you can (pdfs can be marked up) or create a separate file (MS Word, needs to be send via email with the pdf file and paste your SPSS print-out into the MS Word file). You need:

(a) Your name.

(b) One or two sentences about the experimental design (e.g., “Two groups of college students were asked to either engage in 30 min or 90 min of exercise each day. After 30 days, a memory test was administered, and the students were assessed on Number of Items Recalled.”)

(c) List the independent and dependent variables. Label each clearly (e.g., IV = Amount of Exercise; DV = Number of Items Recalled). For correlation, there is no bona fide IV and DV but you still need to specify/list the two variables you are testing.

(d) State what test you used (e.g., one-way ANOVA, one-tailed independent-samples t test, related-samples t test, etc.). In my example, it’d be an independent-samples t test.

(e) State simply if you “Reject” or “Fail to reject” the null hypothesis.

(f) Write in plain English — no statistical terminology! Please, ***nothing*** about “null hypothesis”, “highly significant”, or “critical regions” — Write simply what the take-home message is, including what the independent and dependent variables and the population are. In my example, “The students who exercised more, recalled more items than the students who exercised less.” Do ***not*** write something like this: “The t test showed that we had to reject the null hypothesis and that the experiment was highly significant and effective because one group did better than the other.” (This statement is bad for several reasons which I will address throughout the semester.)

All five SPSS assignments are due on the day of your final exam right before you take the final. Again, try to start these as soon as we cover a given test in class so that if you are experiencing difficulties or if you have questions, you will have plenty of time to ask questions and ask for help before I assign a grade to it. I will be ***happy*** to help! Proactive and sincere students are any professor’s joy! ☺