Speaking about Numbers

SUGGESTED COURSE EXTENSIONS

A. WRITING

1. Create slides and speaker’s notes for a 20-minute presentation of a paper involving a multivariate analysis, to be presented at a professional conference in your field. Include slides for each major section of the paper, including introduction, literature review, data and methods, results (several charts or tables; see question A.2), and conclusions.

2. Adapt charts or tables from your paper to be used on the slides. Write speaker’s notes with Vanna White directions for each.

3. Peer-edit the written drafts of slides and notes, using the checklist from chapter 15 of Writing about Multivariate Analysis.

4. Ask a test audience to evaluate a live presentation of your talk for your specified audience and allotted time, using the criteria on page 378 of Writing about Multivariate Analysis.

5. Make revisions to slides and speaker’s notes based on what you learned in your rehearsal.

C. REVISIONING

1. Critique slides you have created previously for a 15-to-20-minute speech about a multivariate analysis to a scientific audience, using the criteria in chapter 15.

2. Critique the speaker’s notes for the same speech.

3. Revise a table of multivariate results from your paper into several simpler table slides or chart slides, with individualized titles that reflect the specific content of each slide.

4. Write Vanna White notes to introduce and explain one table and one chart from your revised presentation.

5. Exchange your revised work from questions C.3 and C.4 with someone working on a different topic and data. Peer-edit each other’s work.

6. Revise the slides to create a 10-minute presentation for a lay audience.