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SOCL 346

Reflection

Sociological Research as well as statistics has been a challenge. I came into the class believing that I would never really need to use any of what I have been learning. However, as time went on, I started to become fascinated with stats a little bit more. Some of the challenges included overthinking how to set up some of the tables as well as the paragraphs. However, as time went on it got much easier. Another challenge was being able to word and read the graphs, especially in SPSS. However, this was due to constant overthinking, and remaining calm, and taking a step back made it much easier. R-Studio seemed complicated at first, but working with it for a while became almost 2nd nature.

What I learned was that statistics does apply to many aspects of life. Another topic I learned was setting the ANOVA table. This allowed me to help compare the means of different variables and learn how significant they are. When conducting an experiment, this allows you to find which experiment works better than the other. The R-Studio formula was very easy as well.

Another topic I learned was the regression. This allowed me to learn inverse and direct relationships in a graph. The regression math was the hardest to set up due to a bit a vagueness from the YouTube video. Doing the by-hand process however, soon became of the easier math-based statistics to conduct.

The hardest topic I would say would be the T-tests. These were in my opinion the hardest to set up due to me not knowing when to use a one sample or two sample t-test. The R-Studio graphs were a bit difficult to read as well. The by hand process however, was pretty simple.

The ANOVA left a bit of an impact on me more than most of the topics. When I found a statistic sections that can help focus on significant means, this sort changed my outlook on statistics. This is when I realized I would need it in my life. I believe that this is one of the most important sections when it comes to statistics due to averages playing one of the bigger roles in statistics. When you find an average, you are able to come up with a logical conclusion easier.

Due to the coronavirus, it is a shame that we could not work in class together on the regression topic. The main impact this left on me was that learning it on my own made know I could function on an online class and still understand the material without much help. It helped me develop the initiative to look for other ways to find out how to solve a problem.

The t-tests took a lot of trial and error for me. Probably the most out of all of the statistics topics. However, it helped me build up a lot of resilience. Learning how to read the table was difficult as well. I bring this up because also due to the coronavirus, getting the SPSS proved a bit challenging. However, I was able to obtain the SPSS stats as well as the R-Studio data.

Overall, what I hope to do with what I learned in statistics, is to hopefully apply it in my military aviation career. I want to use the skills I obtained in SOCL 346 to be able to find data to help make it easier to become a pilot, yet at the same time make sure that the Air Force is able to get the pilots that they would want. I want to be able to help those that may have had (or maybe currently have) a disability to be able to still gain pilot slots without scrutiny or fear of disqualification due to the stigma of conditions such as autism. I want to hopefully do a study I high function autism and how it can benefit the military, and how they can be exceptional assets to the military. The ANOVA stats and chi-squared I believe will be the biggest help with this one.