

2.2 Goal

Reflection

I've established that being able to evaluate and interpret experimental data is important, but being able to analyze quantitative data and develop models of data is as important. These skills allow students to interpret numerical data and develop testable models of data. When observing graphs and figures in papers, being able to interpret the data is useful because you can compare your data to credible sources. It is incredibly important to be able to compare data thus why experiments are often repeated.

Statistics is an important class where students are able to use their skills to analyze quantitative data. In my junior year of college, I was able to conduct an experiment based on the linear regression of sex and height on the weight of Longwood students. In this experiment, I was required to gather data and interpret into a paper. This was a difficult paper to write at the time because I was not used to writing papers about statistical analysis, but I was able to gain the experience of analyzing and interpreting quantitative data. This is important because for future classes that involve numerical data I will be able to analyze and conduct research based on said data.

At Longwood University an important aspect of classes is presentations. Most popular being poster presentations in the science department. For my cell biology class, I was required to present my experimental data through a poster to the community of Farmville. I had to interpret and present my quantitative data while being confident and composed in regards to my interpretation. It is incredibly important as a scientist to be able to analyze and interpret data through different media like posters and PowerPoints.