

# Stat 201: FINAL PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS

Spring 2017 – 14936 – University of Vermont

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Samuel V. Scarpino	<b>Time:</b>	T/R 10:05 – 11:20
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:svscarpi@uvm.edu">svscarpi@uvm.edu</a>	<b>Location:</b>	Votey 205
<b>Office:</b>	Farrell Hall 206	<b>Office Hours:</b>	T/R 12:00 – 13:30

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**Course Pages:** <http://scarpino.github.io/teaching/> and Blackboard.

## Instructions:

1. Form a group of 1 - 4 people.
2. Come up with a research question.
3. Identify the data you will use to address the research question.
4. Prepare a brief outline describing the **1.) question, 2.) data, and 3.) two - three possible analyses/visualizations**. I will discuss this outline with each group on April 20th and **this outline will count as 10% of your grade**.
5. Each group must prepare a **5 page written report** describing: the question, the data, the analysis, the results (stats and visualizations), and a brief reflection on how things went with your group. **Each page must be 11pt Arial font, 1.5 spacing, and have 1 inch margins**. Deviations from this page definition will be based on how egregious they are, but expect a 5 - 10% deduction. If you have questions about formatting, please ask. Aesthetics, i.e. the quality of the document, will also count towards the grade.
6. Each group will give a 12 minute presentation, with 3 minutes for questions.

## Grading Breakdown:

*Data challenge (20% of your final grade)* – The data challenge—an event where someone releases a data set and awards prizes to those who find something interesting in the data and/or produce a striking visualization—lets us experience an application of data science methods that has become very popular. This will be a group project and will have a written component worth 1/2 of your grade and a presentation worth 1/2 of your grade. Everyone in the group will receive the same grade.

## Possible Data sets:

- Zika - <https://github.com/cdcepi/zika>
- Medicare - <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research-Statistics-Data/html>
- Burlington Data - <https://data.burlingtonvt.gov/browse>

## Important Dates:

Data challenge begins ..... April 13th  
Outlines due ..... April 20th  
Data challenge written due ..... May 4th by 17:00  
Data challenge presentations ..... May 2nd and 4th