STA299/399: Building a statistical communication and consulting community across disciplines

About the prof

Professor: Samantha-Jo Caetano
Please call me: Sam (pronouns: she/her)
How do you pronounce that? Like “K-eye”, the English word “tan”, and the letter “O”

Assessments:

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Review Reports (30%):
Review reports are due on the last day of the month. They will be between 3 to 5 pages long and will provide insight into a topic that was presented. Reviews should have a bibliography and in-line citations. The topic of the report is up to the student. You can select one small thing that a speaker referenced and talk about that, or you can try to reproduce what the speaker had done. Ideally, this report will be generated through R Markdown, but this is not a requirement.

Worklogs (10%):
Throughout the course you should keep a worklog of what you are doing. The worklog does not need to be super detailed, but is meant to be used to track your work. Here is a recommendation of what to include:

- A bullet point list of what you have done since the last meeting
- Questions or challenges you encountered, which you’d like to discuss in your next meeting.
- Questions you’d like to ask, either during the meeting or potentially asynchronously.
- Solutions to problems you encountered either that week, or from a previous week (including references to textbooks / websites / articles / R code if appropriate).
- Important information you learned during the meeting.
- Questions that came up during the meeting, which you or a group member will look into and report on at the next meeting.
- Ideas for next steps.

There is a worklog template that will be posted onto Quercus.

**Presentations (20%)**:

On the week’s that we do not have a scheduled speaker (see tentative speaker schedule – in the weeks that are blank or say “ROP Student presentations”) the students will each give a 6-8min presentation, followed by a 5min Q&A session. The presentation topic will be based off something that was discussed by a previous speaker’s presentation. The topic of the report is up to the student. You can select one small thing that a speaker referenced and talk about that or you can try to reproduce what the speaker had done. Note: these meetings will be open to the UofT community, so others may join.

All students must attend these meetings, and all students should be on camera and will need to ask at least one follow-up question.

**Meeting with collaborators (30%)**:

On the week’s that we do have a scheduled speaker (see tentative speaker schedule below) the speaker will give a 20-30 minute presentation on their data/research and this will be followed by a 15-20 minute question and answer period.

All students must attend these meetings, and all students should paying attention the entire duration and will need to ask at least one follow-up question to the speaker and provide one piece of advice/feedback.

**Hosting a collaborator (10%)**:

On the week’s that we do have a scheduled speaker (see tentative speaker schedule below) one student will “host” the speaker.

Hosting means that:

- Prior to the meeting the host will email the speaker, ask them for the title of their talk, a description of their talk and a short bio about them.
- During the speaker’s session the host will introduce them (i.e., state their name, affiliation, etc) and read out their bio. Then the speaker will give their talk.
- After the talk the host will moderate the Q&A period.