

My First Night of Statistics

I have debated and analyzed and tried to infer about giving you introductory material to get started on some of the more basic topics around displaying data that you could easily do on your own. However, this course is not really about a bunch of unrelated statistical procedures and ideas, it is about thinking deeply and critically about how data is used and misused in our society to make conclusions. So, I would rather use your first night of Statistics to work to get you thinking.

STEP ONE: Watch all three of the following videos in its entirety:

1.

https://www.ted.com/talks/steven_pinker_is_the_world_getting_better_or_worse_a_look_at_the_numbers#t-165354

or 2. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iIiAAhUeR6Y>

or 3.

https://www.ted.com/talks/alan_smith_why_we_re_so_bad_at_statistics

STEP TWO:

Write a paragraph reflection on your thoughts about what you watched. You may focus on ANY element you choose, **but** you should also include a brief connection to the following question:

How do you think the content of the video that you chose to watch relates to what we will study this year in Statistics?

STEP THREE:

Finally, watch **BOTH** of the following videos (they are short)

1. http://www.ted.com/talks/arthur_benjamin_s_formula_for_changing_math_education

2. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_J8QU1m0Ng