

Project 1 – Graphs from the Library

1. Choose a topic that interests you.
2. Browse the on-line library for journal papers about your topic. For my work, I have used Google Scholar, Web of Knowledge, and Medline/Pubmed. The last database includes biomedical research, only. Each field of study will have its own resources to draw from, so spend some time looking into what is available for your topic, if you don't know. Google may help. Also, you can also book an appointment to discuss library resources with an AU librarian—not required, but potentially helpful to your career.
3. Choose one paper that (a) interests you (b) concerns data (c) has at least one graph that represents the data in some way (d) cites at least one older paper, and (e) is old enough and important enough to be cited by at least one newer paper (Google scholar can tell you this).
4. Print out *one* page with a graph that displays or summarizes the data that the paper concerns. You can print out the whole article for your own purposes, but only this one page should be turned in.
5. On the back of the printout write your name, and three citations (first author, title, journal, year); the three citations must be (1) the citation for your chosen paper, (2) a citation for one paper that your paper cites (see your chosen paper's bibliography) (3) a citation for one paper that cites your paper (you can use Google scholar for this)
6. Next, write down the variables displayed by the graph and whether or not they are categorical or quantitative, and if categorical, whether or not they are ordinal or nominal.
7. Turn in your printout together with its back-side write-up by Thursday, September 4. If you catch me while I have access to blackboard, I can mark you immediately with credit for the project, but I still want the hard copy: I am planning to scan the graphs so we can go over them in class. Please do not send an electronic version. It is easier to put the whole ream into the scanner than to assemble a PDF from 30 sources.