

Scientific Study Report Format

The following describes a scientific study report format that should be used for the projects in the statistics class. Use complete sentences. The questions are intended to direct your answers do not include the questions in your prose.

Title: A descriptive title.

Investigators: Principle members of the study team.

Sponsor (footnote on the first page): Generally something like—"This study was supported by a grant from ...". In our case something like—"This report is part of the experimental design assignment for the Statistics class, Math 119 section ..."

Abstract: Short paragraph capturing the highlights of the entire report including the conclusions.

Potential Utility: What larger issue could this study/experiment be relevant to? How could this study/experiment help in the larger sense? Use this paragraph to make your study/experiment sound relevant.

Experimental Design (or Observational Study Design): What is the population? How big was the sample? What sampling strategy was used? What were the treatment groups? Describe the treatments and how they were administered. Be sure to address possible objections to the validity of your results (even if the objections are valid).

Data: Tables and graphs of the data produced by your experiment, survey, etc. Choose a presentation that will make it easy for the reader to draw conclusions from your data.

Conclusions: Was your thesis validated? Were the results inconclusive? If the study was a bust describe what went wrong and why it was a problem.

Recommendations for Further Study: Is there a natural next step to this study? e.g. "These results strongly suggest that the question of parentage in a divorce dispute should not be studied because...". Is there a better strategy to address the same question? e.g. "The confounding factor of _____ apparent in the data produced by this experiment could be eliminated by requiring the subjects to stand on one leg while..."

Appendix: Data forms, survey questions, raw data, and other reference material that is too awkward for the main presentation.

Scoring:

2 title

1 investigators and sponsor

4 abstract

2 purpose

5 design

5 data

4 conclusion

3 recommendations

23 A

19 B

14 C

9 D