**Results/Discussion**

*SOC 4881 – Population Studies Research Practicum*

**DUE**

*April 8*

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Complete this assignment in your group. Be sure to agree---early---on a division of labor within the group; make sure everyone has a meaningful role and has a way to learn from the assignment. It might be a good idea to meet as a group (in person or virtually) to make a plan.

Start by updating your front end and methods sections as per the feedback you got from me and from your peers.

For the Results and Discussion sections: Begin by reviewing the lecture slides (and embedded video) from Wednesday, 3/27. Familiarize yourself with what does and does not belong in Results and Discussion sections. Some highlights:

The **RESULTS** section is where you factually describe your findings:

* Include the findings of your study ... and ONLY the findings of your study
* Do NOT interpret!
* Only dwell on results that are most relevant to the research questions
* Organize it logically ... perhaps by research question
* Present a result and then explain it, before presenting the next result then explaining it, and so on, then end with an overall synopsis
* DON'T discuss or interpret your results!
* DON'T report background information
* DON'T ignore negative results
* DON'T present confusing figures or tables
* DO be factual and concise

The **DISCUSSION** section is where you interpret your findings, revisit (and answer) your research questions, spell out your contributions to the literature, note limitations of your study, and point readers to things they might do next. Again, see the lecture notes, but here are detailed things you might include:

* Remind the reader of the research questions ... and then answer them
* Remind the reader what gap in knowledge is being filled by this study
* How do the results change the state of the literature?
* If you discovered something unexpected, what does it mean? How do you interpret it?
* Acknowledge limitations in your work ... without throwing your work under the bus
* What new directions for future research do you recommend based on your results?

The **RESULTS** section might be about 2,000 words. The **DISCUSSION** section might be shorter, maybe 1,500 words.

**GRADING**

This assignment is worth 8 points. Everyone in the group will receive the same score unless I receive (and verify) information that some in the group deserve more/less than others in the group. In those instances, I will communicate with everyone in the group to come to a fair resolution.

Assignments turned in late will receive half credit. Assignments should be emailed to me (in Word format) at [warre046@umn.edu](mailto:warre046@umn.edu).