

### Course Project Warm-up #3

**Overview** For this warm-up, you will write a “final” project proposal. Your proposal will include a precise question or hypothesis you want to study and a detailed plan for how to gather data relevant to your question or hypothesis. “Final” in quotes since you may need further refinement of your question or your study design after you do a pilot study (the focus of the next warm-up).

**Specific requirements** Submit a proposal by Tuesday, November 13. Your proposal should contain

- a clear description of the population for your question or hypothesis
- a clear and specific question or hypothesis that can be summarized in one sentence
- a detailed plan for collecting data

#### Comments

- Phrase your question in terms of population and the quantity or quantities you will measure and analyze. For example, your initial question of “Do you really get 16 ounces of potato chips in a 16-ounce bag?” might get refined to “What is the mean weight of potato chips in 16 ounce package of Lay’s Regular potato chips?”
- Be specific and detailed in your plans for gathering data. For example, if you plan to survey subjects, provide a draft of specific questions. Include details on how you will select a random sample.
- If you think it best to make a significant change to your initial proposal, check with me in person or by e-mail.
- You will need to stay organized as you start collecting data in a pilot study and the full study. Consider buying a bound notebook to record everything you do on this project, from notes on your ideas at this stage to data from the full study and everything in between.

**Looking ahead** Here’s a rough outline of project steps with tentative deadlines:

- “Final” project topic and detailed study design due Tuesday, November 13.
- Pilot study report and final study design due Tuesday, November 20.
- Final data due Thursday, December 6.
- Final report due Monday, December 17 (at scheduled final exam time).