

Practical Session 1

Designing a questionnaire

It will make the class more interesting to use data that are relevant to us. Therefore, in the practical class for week 1, our objective is to design a small questionnaire with responses related to politics or any of the other themes of our degree programme (history, law, sociology, ...).

We should try to think of questions involving variables of all the different types we have seen in class: qualitative (dichotomous, nominal, ordinal) and quantitative (discrete, continuous).

We can write the questions and responses in the associated Excel spreadsheet which gives a basic questionnaire outline. Note that the possible responses can be modified to fit the questions you ask. In the case of the qualitative variables, you should mark in yellow the response you choose and in the case of the quantitative variables, you should put your response in the yellow square. For these variables, always give an exact numerical response (not “between 5 and 10” for example) and if you use decimals, mark these with a decimal point. If you feel that any of the questions is too sensitive, you do not have to respond to that question.

You can design the questionnaire and mark your responses in the first Practical Class. Your practical class tutor will set up an anonymous Assignment in Aula Global so that you can upload your responses to AG. Do not save your responses in a file with a name that will identify you.

Your responses will be collated into a single file by your practical class tutor and you will be able to use these in future weeks to illustrate some of the statistical techniques introduced during the course.