Reflection Paper

To start off with this class I had a very negative thought, I was consistently asking myself how is relevant to the real world, how will this help me with my major and why should I take this class if it doesn’t help me out. But now looking on back on this course I was completely wrong. I never knew statistics have such an impact on the world today. Not only does it have an impact but a lot of people know how to mess with the numbers and the graphs so that they can make the data come out the way that they want it. Another major thing that I learned in this class is how to read and analyze graphs so that they make sense, it may seem like an easy task but in reality there is so much more to these graphs if you take a deeper look into them the majority of the time.

To start off with this class in the fall quarter it was ok, I got to choose my series and it was all pretty simple. The whole point of the first part of this class was to learn about film elements and see how the series were put together basically. Then we got to the part where we are at now. It had to do with statistics, which means number and confusing graphs. For me I already came in with the attitude that this was going to be hard and not worth my time. I’ll be the first to tell you that I was completely wrong. Statistics actually play a huge role in this world that I never realized before, I already knew that they played a role in sports but never realize how much you can tell about a movie just from looking at the statistics from the film itself.

It started off mostly with looking at correlations of graphs. This was mainly looking at sets of data to see the correlation in the graphs. This will expose the outliers and show the differences and similarities in the data. At first these graphs all looked the same to me and nothing seemed to be different but after learning in the class that if you take a look in depth that things will seem to pop out more and you can tell a lot from these simple graphs. This really set us up for the quarter, without knowing these basic steps we would be lot when getting our data. We wouldn’t know what to look for or what any of this stuff even means. So pretty much the whole first section was helping us getting set up for success for the rest of the quarter.

The next thing that we worked on that really helped me in this class but will also help me a lot in the future is looking at trend lines. This is very important for statistics so that you know exactly the flow of the chart. The most difficult thing for me at this part was getting a trend line that fitted mine perfectly. But overall I learned a lot from this section and I believe it will come in very handy in math somewhere down the road or in another classroom that had some kind of charts or graphs involved in them.

Next we came to clustering, this seemed very confusing to me at first. Not only because I wasn’t sure exactly what clustering was but the fact that I lacked so many skills on the computer was pretty difficult for me the whole time and really just made things a lot more confusing than they really should have been. But overall clustering was a very interesting part of what we learned this quarter. Clustering really helped me because I am way more of a visual
learner than I am with just words. Not only was this helpful but it kind of made more sense to me because I could actually see what I was doing so this made me understand the process a lot more and in the end was a lot more helpful to me than some of the other content that we learned in this class.

The last thing that I learned was about regression, this was actually very interesting for me as well. If you glance at the graphs from regression it can look really scary for the first little bit. But if you really break it down and take your time, I learned that it actually does make sense and could have an impact on the producers of the show. This is the point where I could actually see how this could be used in the real world. This shows what the crowds like and what is working, any smart business man would take this information and make changes for the best of their series/teams so that they can get the best bang for their buck.

This quarter in a whole has had a lot of ups and downs, whether it was me not getting the material or it was just me being lazy. But at the end of the day I have learned a lot in this class, things that seemed so pointless at one point of the year now make sense to me. Although it may have been really hard at times I’m happy I took this class and learned all the things I did at the end of the day. Thank you.