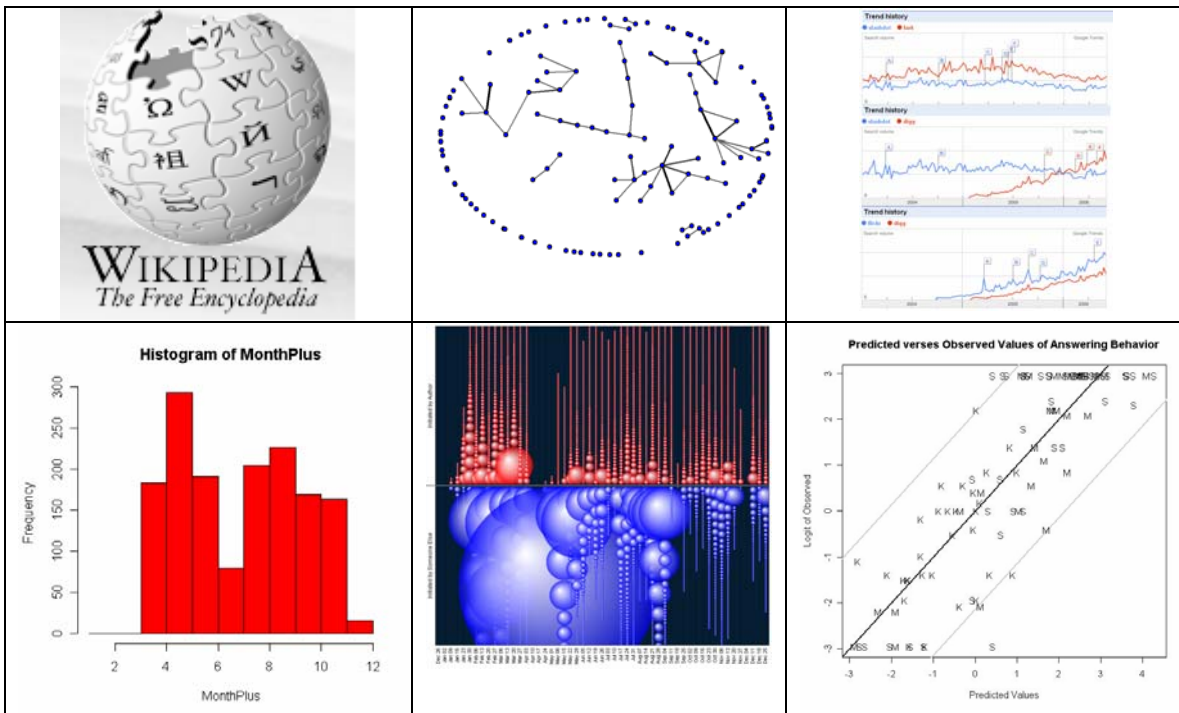


Sociology 491: Independent Study

Topic: Online Communities



Undergraduate independent study (Soc 491) on Web-based social science research:
Department of Sociology and Institute for Social Sciences.

- Online communities like Flickr, Wikipedia, Facebook, LiveJournal, Second Life, and World of Warcraft generate mountains of data that can reveal much about the nature of social interaction. Students will get hands-on experience in all phases of the research process, from literature searches to data analysis, information visualization to writing up results. This is not a reading course. Instead, students will work closely with an NSF-funded multi-disciplinary research team, gaining hands-on experience on specific research projects.

Requirements:

Students in the social, computing, and information sciences will find this course especially rewarding but may come from any major. Students must have a superb academic record (at least 3.7 GPA) and be technically inclined. Students will be required to keep a weekly journal of their research activities and accomplishments.

Prerequisites: permission of instructor.

Contact: Ted Welser, htw3@cornell.edu

Instructor: Michael W. Macy and staff

Credits: 4