

PSYCH 10 Final Project · Fall 2026

Week 4 · M3 · Your team and your data plan

Full name _____	SUNet ID (the part before @stanford.edu) _____	Section (e.g., TUES 9:30) _____
Please write legibly so the teaching team can log your attendance: if we can't read your name, we can't give you credit.		

Please hand this sheet in to your TA at the end of section (each student should hand in their own copy). A copy is on the course website (psych10.github.io).

Deliverables

Each group should submit two files on Gradescope (the link is on Canvas): the group's `M3-team-and-plan.Rmd`, from the `milestones/` folder, and the knit PDF. One member of the group should upload both files and add the other members to the submission. For today, each of you should work on your own computer, in your own project folder. If your TA asks for changes, please make them and resubmit by Sunday Oct 18.

Working as a group

One of the learning goals of the final project is to learn how to collaborate effectively with other people on a complex, multi-part technical project. We'd like you to see this project as an opportunity to learn from each other, to work on a research question you're genuinely interested in, and to become a more effective collaborator. The teaching team will be here to support you along the way, with guidance on how to structure the collaboration and set good norms for your group.

Steps

You'll spend most of today working with your group. The `.Rmd` has a place for every question on this sheet.

1. **Form your group.** Your TA will start with a go-around: in a sentence or two, each of you should give the topic of your M2 claim and one question you still have about that claim. Listen for classmates who care about the same topics. After the go-around, we'll take a few minutes for everyone to talk to one another and figure out which groupings might make sense. Then form a group with other students in this section. A group should have three members. (In rare circumstances your TA may approve a group of two, but no group may have more than three.) Your TA will help anyone without a group find a group to join. Everyone needs to be working in a group on the final project. Once your group is set, fill out the team form together at tinyurl.com/psych10-team-form. That form is our record of who is in which group.
2. **Download `M3-team-and-plan.Rmd`** from the course website into your project's `milestones/` folder, next to your M1 and M2 files. Each of you can fill in a copy during the discussion; the group should submit one copy at the end of section.
3. **Tell your group about your M2 project.** A couple of minutes per person, on these questions:
 - What claim did you use for M2, and what dataset?
 - Did you have trouble finding or understanding the dataset?
 - What did you see in your plot, and was it what you expected?
 - What would you still want to know about the claim or the data?
4. **Write your collaboration plan.** Agree on, and write down in the `.Rmd`:
 - How you'll stay in touch (a group chat, Slack, or email), and whether you'll meet outside section. Make the group chat now, while you're all in the room.
 - Who will submit this week's milestone on Gradescope and add the other members to the submission.
 - Who will take the lead on which parts (for example, digging into the dataset, or typing up the `.Rmd` in section), and what you expect of each other when it comes to engagement, communication, and attendance.
5. **Find what you have in common, and pick at least one claim to explore.** Talk through these questions:
 - Which topics interest the whole group? They can be broader than any one claim (sleep, social media, school, health, sports, money...).
 - What questions would you be excited to explore, including questions none of you looked at in M2?
 - Does the group want to keep one of your M2 claims, combine two of them, or choose a new claim?

Then write down at least one claim, a dataset that could test it, and the reasons for your choice. It's fine to list a few claim-and-dataset pairs this week while you're still deciding; your group will commit to one in M4. (If none of your M2 claims is the right fit, you can find a new claim online today, as long as you can also find a dataset for that claim.)

6. **Look at the data as a group.** The member who will submit (step 4) should download the dataset for your first-choice claim into `data/raw/` in their own project folder. If the dataset comes as an R package, they should install that package instead of downloading a file. Then, in their copy of the `.Rmd`, they should load the data (from `data/raw/` with `here()`, as in M1) and print `dim()`, `str()`, and `head()`. Read the output as a group: what is one row (a person, a country, a year?), and what are the columns?
7. **Write the rest of your data plan.** In the `.Rmd`, for your first-choice claim and dataset, write down:
 - **The claim**, with its number, and a link to its source.
 - **A link to the dataset.**
 - **Who collected the dataset, and when.** You can use an AI tool to look this up, but confirm the answer from the source: the dataset's download page, or the documentation that came with the data (a README, a codebook, or, for an R package, the help page for the dataset, such as `?gapminder`).
 - **What you expect to find** about the claim: do you expect your data to give a number above, below, or close to the number in the claim? If the claim compares two groups, say which group you expect to have the higher value. Either way, give a rough size in the units of the data (a percentage, or a difference between the groups). If you disagree with each other, write down each member's view.
 - **The columns you expect to use to test the claim**, spelled as in the `str()` output. This list is not a commitment: your group will settle on the claim, the dataset, and the columns in M4, and lock in the question when you preregister in M5.

If you listed other claim-and-dataset pairs in step 5, a sentence on each is enough for now.
8. **Get your TA's sign-off.** Please show your TA the plan before you leave section. They'll sign off or ask for changes. If your group needs more time than today's section allows to get going, please schedule a time to meet as a group before you leave section.
9. **Knit to PDF and submit.** The submitter should knit the group's `.Rmd` in a fresh session (Session → Restart R, then Knit → Knit to PDF), upload the `.Rmd` and the PDF to Gradescope, and add the other members to the submission.

After this week. Shortly after section in Week 5, the teaching team will send each group a unique project group ID and a shared folder for the rest of the project.

Using AI tools on this milestone

We encourage you to use AI tools on this milestone and throughout the project: learning to use them well is one of the goals of the project, and the teaching team will share tips along the way. Ask your TA whenever you want advice. This week, use AI tools to find candidate datasets for your claim and to track down who collected a dataset and when. Watch out for a dataset, a link, or a variable name that appears only in the tool's output: before you write anything down, open the dataset's download page or documentation and confirm that the link works and that each variable name appears in the `str()` output. Choose the claims yourselves, and write what you expect to find yourselves. The purpose of this milestone is for your group to explore questions you're all interested in and to write down at least one claim with a dataset that could test it; the commitment comes in M4.

How it's graded (2 points)

	Points
The team form is filled out, and every member is on the Gradescope submission	0.2
What each member worked on in M2, what you have in common, and the claim-and-dataset pairs you're considering, with reasons, in full sentences	0.4
The collaboration plan: how you'll stay in touch, who submits, who leads what, what you expect of each other	0.2
The data loads; <code>dim()</code> , <code>str()</code> , and <code>head()</code> are in the PDF; what one row is	0.4
The data plan for your first-choice claim: the claim with its number and source, the dataset link, who collected it and when, your prediction with a direction and a rough size, the columns named as in <code>str()</code>	0.6
Your TA's sign-off in section (or on a revised plan by Sunday Oct 18)	0.2