You should now be thinking about your papers. You should have a basic idea of what your topic will be and you should be moving towards identifying a (1) specific research question, (2) independent variable(s), and (3) dependent variable.

Instead of having the paper due all at once, I am going to split it up into some smaller sections with some intermediate due dates. This should allow me to catch problems before they get too ugly and to make sure that you are all making adequate progress. Each smaller assignment will be worth 10 points (40 points total), and I will make comments on each one. I expect you to fix these problems before the final draft is due. The final draft is worth 60 points. Remember that are you are welcome to work with a partner on this project, but the expectations might be higher.

**Tuesday, September 27**: You must turn in your research question, hypothesis(es), independent variable(s), and dependent variable (10 points).

**Tuesday, October 20**: You must turn in a copy of your data. If you have a particularly complex data problem and you can’t have it in order by then, you must at least have a very specific website (or other place) to point me to for where you will get the data. You must have my permission beforehand to qualify for this exception (10 points).

**Tuesday, November 8**: You must turn in the introduction, literature review, and hypotheses section of your paper (10 points).

**Tuesday, November 22**: You must turn in the data and methods section of your paper (10 points).

The entire paper, which will include sections entitled: introduction, literature review, hypotheses, data and methods, results, and conclusions, is due on **Thursday, December 8** (60 points).

If you have any questions about your paper, please email me with three times you can meet to discuss your paper (ccooper@email.wcu.edu). I will email you back choosing one of those times to meet in my office (Belk 279).