DAPS&CO 2020
Data Access and Regulation – Module III
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Course Assessment

Overview

This course is primarily designed to introduce students to the different problems and challenges encountered in managing large-scale research data, and to a variety of platforms, tools and strategies which can be used to address those challenges. While the course aims to give students a basic level of technical skill that will help them to use those tools (especially in the Python programming language and the MySQL and MongoDB database software), it is *not* primarily a technical skills module and the majority of students' assessment will not be based on their technical abilities. Instead, the bulk of the assessment will measure students' ability to design, explain and justify a data management strategy for a large-scale research project.

In-Class and Homework Assessment (30%)

During the course, a series of in-class and homework assignments will be set for students. 30% of students' final grades will be determined according to the engagement and effort shown in these assignments.

Final Project (70%)

The final project for this class is a written report designed to demonstrate students' understanding of the core concepts introduced in the class.

For the report, the students should outline a hypothetical large-scale research project involving multiple collaborators and a significant amount of research data to analyse. This can be a "scaled-up" version of the capstone project they completed for Module II of this course, or an entirely new project. A brief description of this project outlining the hypothetical aims, objectives, team composition and kinds of data and analysis that will be employed should be submitted before the end of the module. This only needs to be a few paragraphs long, and must be submitted by 12pm on Friday, February 28th.

The final report, which should address how data will be collected, shared, stored and sorted, which software and platforms will be used, and how issues like backups and data availability for other researchers will be handled, along with any other detail the students think is relevant, should be submitted by Monday, March 9th. This report does not need to be long – two pages is fine – but please ensure it provides enough detail for the instructor to understand fully the data management strategy you are proposing, and why you have chosen these specific tools and approaches.