**Math 155, Fall 2016 - Summary of a Research Article Assignment**
**Due Friday, December 9**

(NOTE: This assignment counts for 10% of your semester average)

For this assignment, you will summarize one of the articles that is linked on the class web page (under “Notes”). I’d encourage you to read through a few (if not all) of the options before deciding on which one you would like to use for this assignment. Choose the one that is the most interesting (and/or makes the most sense) to you personally.

Your assignment is to type a summary of the article. Your summary should be no longer than two pages. Your summary must be in *paragraph* form, using complete sentences (*not* just an outline, numbered list, etc.), and it must address each of the items listed below.

1. What are the researchers attempting to do? That is, what are they setting out to analyze, compare, or test? (A statement to this effect can usually be found somewhere in the article’s introduction and/or abstract.)

2. What variables are being measured?
(Only consider variables that are being analyzed using a test that appears on the “Choosing a Hypothesis Test” handout – that is, look for variables being analyzed using a z-test, t-test, Wilcoxon test, Mann-Whitney test, or sign test. Ignore any variable being analyzed with a “chi-square” test, or any other type of test not mentioned on the handout.)

*Address each of the following items only for tests that are based on the variables that you identified in item #2 above.*

3. What type of hypothesis test(s) did the researchers decide to use? In your judgment, was the chosen test the most appropriate one to use, based on the situation described in the article? If so, why? If not (or if it’s unclear), what test might have been a better choice? Explain your answers.

4. What P-values are reported? (Note: some papers may call the P-value something slightly different, such as “significance,” rather than “P.”) Also, for each of these P-values, what is the alternative hypothesis that is being tested, and what is the null hypothesis?

5. Briefly summarize the researchers’ conclusions.

Turn in your paper (hard copy, please, rather than an email attachment) by 5:00 PM on Friday, December 9. Either turn in your paper when you come to class on the morning of the 9th, or bring it to my office (108 Devilbiss). If I am not there, leave your paper under the door (after double-checking to make sure your name is on it!).