



"I'M GLAD YOU MADE US DO IT"

Reflections on using Blackboard to manage
mandatory weekly assignments in statistics



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
AND BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES
AARHUS UNIVERSITY

SARAH VAN MASTRIGT
BLENDED LEARNING CONFERENCE NOV. 2015

THE CHALLENGE

- How to integrate ongoing hands-on practice with statistical analysis into a large lecture-format course?
 - Limited student interest
 - Limited instructor time
 - Limited possibilities for feedback
 - Practical management

MY APPROACH

- Blackboard as teaching and management tool
 - Mandatory weekly assignments (10/12 required)
 - SPSS groups of 50-60 students, supported by PhD students
 - Whole process managed via Blackboard
 - Registration in groups
 - My distribution of assignments, datasets, and answer keys
 - Students' submission of assignments
 - PhD instructors' materials, registration of submissions, email warnings, etc

EXAMPLES FROM MY BLACKBOARD PAGE

- Creating & Managing Groups
- Creating & Managing Assignments
- Using the Grade Centre

GROUPS

Group Registration Instructions

Group Registration on Blackboard: Wednesday, February 4th 07:00

›Click on **SPSS Groups** in homepage menu, Click **Sign-up Sheet**, and then **Sign-up** for an available group.

The screenshot displays the Blackboard interface. On the left, a navigation menu lists 'Home Page', 'Information', 'Content', 'Discussions', and 'SPSS Groups', with 'SPSS Groups' circled in red. The main content area is titled 'Groups' and contains a 'Create Group' button and a 'View Sign-up Sheet to Join a Group' button, the latter of which is also circled in red. To the right, the 'Sign Up Sheet' section lists four groups: 'SPSS Groups 1', 'SPSS Groups 2', 'SPSS Groups 3', and 'SPSS Groups 4'. Each group entry shows 'Group Members: None' and 'Max Members Allowed: 55'. The 'Sign Up' link for 'SPSS Groups 3' is circled in red.

PSYF15STA 7
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ASSIGNMENTS

SPSS Assignment 2

[Build Content](#)  [Assessments](#)  [Tools](#)  [Partner Content](#) 

 **SPSS Assignment 2** 
Attached Files:  PSYF15STA - SPSS Assignment 2.doc  (33 KB)

 **Average Student Data**

 **SPSS Assignment 2 - Answer Key**

 **Lawyers vs. Psychologists data**

THE GRADE CENTRE

Sort Columns By: Layout Position Order: ▲Ascending

Last Saved: 11 May 2015 19:2

Weighted Total	Total	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm	SPSS Assignm
--	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	11	--	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	10	✓	✓	✓	⚙	1.00	--	✓	✓
--	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	11	✓	✓	✓	--	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	10	✓	!	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	--
--	11	✓	✓	✓	✓	1.00	✓	✓	✓
--	--	⚙	⚙	⚙	⚙	--	--	--	--

STUDENT REFLECTIONS (2015 EVALUERING)

Hvad har været godt ved undervisningsforløbet? Hvorfor?

- Vekslingen imellem forelæsning og SPSS-undervisning har været rigtig god. Kombinationen af dem har gjort, at jeg har fået så god en forståelse for faget som overhovedet muligt. Der har været en rød tråd imellem forelæsningen og den efterfølgende SPSS-undervisning, hvilket har været super rart!
- Rigtig godt, med SPSS-timerne, hvor vi kan øve og bruge teorien!
- Det har været godt at blive "tvunget" til at aflevere opgave hver uge. Det gør, at pensum huskes bedre.
- Det har været godt, at der har været øvelser i SPSS, så der har været tid til at stille spørgsmål, mens man havde dem i forbindelse med øvelserne.
- Det har været rigtig dejligt og godt, at man har haft en forelæsning i et emne, og så er det det emne der skal laves opgaver i på holdet. På den måde har der været super god forbindelse mellem teori og praksis.
- Gode praktiske opgaver og god opfølgning ved at vi får answer keys for hver opgave.
- At man har haft de ugentlige opgaver har gjort at man kunne øve sig.

MY REFLECTIONS

- Time consuming at beginning to set up but worth it in the long run
- Important to provide students with clear instructions, screenshots, and links to blackboard guides at outset, and with detailed answer keys as feedback
- Combining mandatory online assignments with regular lectures can help students keep up with fast-paced courses and increase their levels of engagement
- Support of online assignments via face-to-face PhD-student-led groups helpful, but not necessarily required if lacking resources
- Try it!



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Contact me: vanmastrigt@psy.au.dk