

Self-correction exercise

1 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this course is to improve critical thinking, esp. quantitative reasoning about statistical data. The assumption is that everyone is capable of improving their critical thinking *if motivated* and properly *coached*. The key to attaining this objective is **intellectual honesty**. [We are *not* talking about “not cheating on tests.” We *are* talking about being truthful with yourself.] For the rest of the semester I will be your coach to help you in your journey. I will also appoint student captains who will help in this process.

2 RULES FOR INTELLECTUAL HONESTY

- 1) Self-identify blind spots, weaknesses, and mistakes and then work to remedy them. This requires more time than you think. It also requires more courage than you might think.
- 2) “Be quick, but don’t hurry” (John Wooden).
- 3) Do not take anything personally. A mistake is an opportunity to learn.
- 4) Do not make anything up. Don’t take short cuts. Remember the Law of the Farm.
- 5) Do not repeat anything you do not agree with or understand.
- 6) Seek quality information. It’s worth the extra effort.
- 7) The key is constancy of effort.

3 ASSUMPTIONS

- 1) Students are independent self-governing adults that desire intellectual integrity.
- 2) Students have faith that intellectual integrity is in their future emotional and financial interests.
- 3) Students see through empty rhetoric about student success promoted by university and other social and corporate structures.

4 MIDTERM EXAM 2 SELF-CORRECTION

- 1) Organize your notes since the last midterm.
- 2) One question at a time, determine if your answer on the test was correct and optimal.
- 3) If you believe your answer was suboptimal, revise the response using standard markup editing with a blue, red, or purple pen. [Use this mark to indicate a deletion: ↪.]
- 4) When appropriate, annotate your revision documenting what you learned.
- 5) Coaching will occur in class on 4/18 & 4/20.
- 6) Draft corrections due 4/20. Final corrections due 4/25.
- 7) Insightful correction will receive half credit of the question that were missed.