

Final Project Assignment

Presentations: March 13-15

Final paper due: March 19, 6:30 pm in 460-040C

Overview:

For your final project, pick a topic from among those discussed in the course and go into depth. Your topic should be manageable enough so that you can read all of the major papers pertaining to it. Your task will be to characterize both the normative principles being investigated and the descriptive evidence concerning human performance relative to those normative principles.

Here are some example topics:

“Do people really neglect base rates?”

“How robust is the framing effect?”

“What is the current status of support theory?”

“Behavioral social choice”

“The projection bias”

“What's up with Linda?”

“Probability versus frequency judgments”

“IQ and judgment errors”

“Behavioral game theory”

“Preference reversals”

“Regret theory versus prospect theory”

“Confirmation bias”

You may work in groups of 2 for this assignment, or else work alone.

Presentation:

For your presentation, you should prepare Powerpoint and give an informal talk outlining the points you plan to make in your final paper. You need to summarize both the normative and empirical findings related to your topic, and should pose some questions for the class to ponder. These questions should be ones you want to address in your final paper, and should be chosen to help you finish it.

Final paper:

The final paper should be, for individuals, 10-12 pages, double spaced in 11 pt type. For pairs, the final paper should be 16-18 pages. The writeup should summarize the literature via normative and descriptive findings, and discuss questions that remain open or unresolved.