



What's
The
Story?

Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1 and 2
CSYS/MATH 6701, 6713
University of Vermont, Fall 2025
“Oh you better cram your insults in now ...”
Assignment 16

[It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia](#) [Dee Day, S14E03](#)

Episode links: [IMDB](#), [Fandom](#), [TV Tropes](#).

Due: Monday, April 27, with presentations in Tuesday's and Thursday's PoCS meeting experiences

<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocs/assignments/16/>

Some useful reminders:

Deliverator: Prof. Peter Sheridan Dodds (contact through Teams)

Office: The Ether and/or Innovation, fourth floor

Office hours: See Teams calendar

Course website: <https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocs> **Overleaf:** \LaTeX

templates and settings for all assignments are available at

<https://www.overleaf.com/read/tsxfwwmwdgxj>.

Some guidelines:

1. Each student should submit their own assignment.
2. All parts are worth 3 points unless marked otherwise.
3. Please show all your work/workings/workingses clearly and list the names of others with whom you ~~conspired~~ collaborated.
4. We recommend that you write up your assignments in \LaTeX (using the Overleaf template). However, if you are new to \LaTeX or it is all proving too much, you may submit handwritten versions. Whatever you do, please only submit single PDFs.
5. For coding, we recommend you improve your skills with Python. And it's going to be a no for the catachrestic Excel. Please do not use any kind of AI thing unless directed. The (evil) Deliverator uses (evil) Matlab.
6. There is no need to include your code but you can if you are feeling especially proud.

Assignment submission:

Via **Brightspace** (which is not to be confused with the death vortex of the same name, just a weird coincidence). Again: One PDF document per assignment only.

Please submit your project's current draft in pdf format via Brightspace.

Life advice: Commit to watching Taskmaster. It's all on Youtube.

Prepare and deliver short presentations on your project.

Format will be a landscape poster which we will show on screen.

- Make posters that would print as 36" by 24" (landscape not portrait) and be legible for that size.

Instructions for Posters:

1. All students must attend in person unless enrolled as online only (reminder: this is true of all lectures, barring reasonable excuses).
2. Talks must be G rated and respectful of others. See the [PoCS syllabus](#), UVM's student conduct standards, and UVM's [Our Common Ground](#).
3. Time: Please aim for up to 5 minutes per person.
Please be respectful of others and hold to this time limit.
Practice!!!
4. For your talk, your mission is to give an overview of your project:
 - (a) Explain what you are exploring and why it matters.
 - (b) Give an overview of data (origin, curation, quality, other issues).
 - (c) Describe progress.
 - (d) Outline what you're hoping to achieve long term.
5. At the start, please introduce yourself in a sentence (name + your department/field), and to acknowledge who you're working with.
6. Poster format: Whatever you use, please create a simple one page PDF.
PDFs are the least dangerous. Probably.
Beamer/LaTeX is there. May be painful.
Powerpoint or Keynote should be fine. Probably.
7. Students who are online only may share their screen if needed.

8. A grading rubric for posters is at the end of this assignment.
9. **Please upload your poster to Teams some time on Monday, April 27, the day before the first poster session on Tuesday, April 28.**
Use the channel for Projects.
10. Practice! These are short presentations so you can run through them a number of times to straighten everything out.

Instructions for Project Papers:

1.

Criterion & description	3 — Excellent	2 — Proficient	1 — Developing	0 — Absent	Score
Research Framing					
Research question Question is specific, bounded, and clearly motivated.	Precise and arguable; stakes immediately evident	Clear; motivation mostly evident	Present but vague or too broad	No coherent question	
Methodological Justification <small>core emphasis — three required criteria</small>					
Why this tool or method Explicit rationale for choosing this approach over alternatives — not just that it was used. <i>* Required</i>	Principled justification; alternatives considered and weighed	Clear rationale; minimal mention of alternatives	Tool named; justification superficial or generic	No justification provided	
How the method answers the question Argues explicitly how the chosen tool generates evidence that addresses the research question. <i>* Required</i>	Tight, explicit argument linking method to answer	Connection clear and mostly explicit	Connection assumed; logical gaps present	Method and question appear unrelated	
Findings & Poster					
Findings & interpretation Results move beyond description to an interpretive claim; limitations noted.	Insightful interpretation; limitations situated	Solid; some engagement with limitations	Mostly descriptive; limited depth	Findings listed without interpretation	
Poster clarity Argument followable without verbal explanation; figures labeled.	Narrative arc visible at a glance	Generally clear; minor issues	Cluttered or hard to follow unaided	Argument not legible from poster	

Total: _ / 15