

NOTE: We have the computer lab LSBE 237 reserved for us every day for the rest of the semester during our class time. If we are supposed to be in the lab that day, and there is someone in there, we will ask them to leave.

Where is SPSS on the student lab server?

Start > All Programs > Specialized Academic Software > Biology and Math Software > SPSS 15.0 for Windows

Assignment 1: Tutorials Due Dates (see WebVISTA)

Every person on every team must complete the tutorials below by the due dates. By doing so, you will save your team a lot of time and frustration. This is true! By skipping the tutorials and trying to run the program by the seat-of-your-pants, you will be frustrated, will waste a lot of time, and basically be crabby students. And I'll be a crabby professor. Not good.

To get to tutorials, click on Help. Then click on Tutorials.

You will be asked to verify that you completed all of the following tutorials in their entirety (all subtitles also) by the due dates shown on WebVISTA (indicate that you have completed them in the dropbox of WebVISTA):

Introduction
Using the Help System
Reading Data
Using the Data Editor
Working with Output
Creating and Editing Charts

Other Important SPSS Hints

1. SPSS-PC has fantastic on-line Helps. Click on Help if you have a question before asking Dr. Castleberry how to do something! There are Help buttons in most displays, plus there is the main Help button at the top of the screen. There are Helps to help you understand output (called Results Coach– you right click while your cursor is inside a table you want to better understand). There are help screens every time you are asked to do something or choose something. Bottom line, use the Helps. You don't have an SPSS manual. You don't need one.
2. Don't take your disk out of the PC until you've shut down the file completely. If you do pull it out before the file is closed, you're going to bomb the system because SPSS actually keeps most of the data on your drive and not in the machine.
3. Back up your data on several disks. Everyone in your team (and I mean everyone) should have a copy of the final data file and output file at all times. Do not just have one master copy of the data and output. If only one person has the data and that person is absent, you'll lose a whole day of work. Best way to save your work is to save it to the Desktop, then copy from the desktop to each person's individual disk. Also, save it to the N Drive (your server account from UMD).
4. Print out the results from time to time. Do not wait until the very end to print out the results. I've seen students wait to the end, and then their disk or file got corrupted and they had to run all the analyses again. Every single one. Print it out!