Methods in Experimental Ecology II (PCB 6468)
Fall 2016 - Exercise Instructions

1) Exercises will be assigned each Friday according to the schedule on the syllabus (10 during the semester).

2) Answers should be written in the most concrete way possible but should nonetheless be a complete, self-standing document that imitates the structure of a scientific paper (appropriate sections and headings, labelled tables and figures, etc). They should also include the complete (and correct) R code used to generate the answers as an **appendix at the end**.

3) Answers are due on Friday *before* class (10:30 AM) and will be reviewed by Pedro, Lina and one of your peers (which will be assigned randomly and may remain anonymous). This means that on Friday *after* class, everybody will receive the homework of one of their peers.

4) The three reviewers have until next Friday *before* class to give comments and decide among one of the following four options*:

  a) The exercise is accepted as is - **5** points are given and there is no need to resubmit.
  b) The exercise is accepted pending minor revisions - **4** points are given and the author may choose whether to resubmit or not.
  c) The exercise is accepted pending major revisions - **3** points are given and the author may choose whether to resubmit or not.
  d) The exercise is rejected - **2** points are given and the author cannot resubmit.

* Anyone not submitting their homework on time will get no marks.

5) The author will receive the consensus decision on Friday *after* class and will have one more week to make revisions and submit a second version which will only be reviewed by Pedro and Lina. At this moment the grade will either remain the same (if the appropriate changes were not made) or go up on the scale depending on how much improvement there was.

See table below for the exact dates for each activity/exercise. *Failure to return a well thought out peer-review in time may result in a grade decrease for the reviewer.*

FRIDAY	EX1	EX2	EX3	EX4	EX5	EX6	EX7	EX8	EX9	EX10
15-Jan	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22-Jan	V1	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29-Jan	R1	V1	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-Feb	V2	R1	V1	A	-	-	-	-	-	-
12-Feb	R2	V2	R1	V1	A	-	-	-	-	-
19-Feb	-	R2	V2	R1	V1	A	-	-	-	-
26-Feb	-	-	R2	V2	R1	V1	A	-	-	-
4-Mar	-	-	-	R2	V2	R1	V1	-	-	-
11-Mar	-	-	-	-	R2	V2	R1	-	-	-
18-Mar	-	-	-	-	-	R2	V2	A	-	-
25-Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-	R2	V1	A	-
1-Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R1	V1	A
8-Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	V2	R1	V1
15-Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R2	V2	R1
22-Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R2	V2
29-Apr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R2

A: Exercise is assigned by Pedro and Lina
V1: First version of the exercise is turned in by all the authors
R1: First review of the exercise is turned in by the three reviewers (Pedro, Lina and anonymous peer)
V2: Second version of the exercise is turned in by authors who choose to resubmit
R2: Second and final review of the exercise is returned by Pedro and Lina

Instructions for peer review:

* Keep it as concrete and constructive as possible.

* The decision to reject an exercise (whether partially or completely) has to be justified based on the material covered in class or credible, outside sources.

* Consider taking the following questions into account: Did the author…
    … clearly define the question being answered?
    … select and justify an appropriate statistical model for the question and data provided?
    … perform the analysis correctly?
    … check that the final model complied with all relevant assumptions in the best way possible?
    … correctly interpreted the statistical output to answer the original question?
    … present a coherent, well written and organized document?

* Please use the format on the next page and keep your review one page or shorter.

* All exercises and reviews must be sent by email to lina.sanchez@knights.ucf.edu from your knights emails account.

Exercise number:

Reviewers name:

Authors name:

Final decision:
[ ] Accept
[ ] Accept pending minor revisions
[ ] Accept pending major revisions
[ ] Reject

Comments/justification: