Second Paper Assignment

Political Science 210, Introduction to Political Behavior
Paul Gronke

Assignment Handed Out: November 11, 2005
Assignment Due Back In: November 23, 2005 (STRICT DEADLINE)

Quantitative Analysis of Survey Data: TURNOUT or FTDiff in 2004

In this paper, you will be required to perform a quantitative analysis of survey data. You must analyze either turnout (using P210-DIDVOTE) or vote choice in 2000 (using P210-FTDIFF or P210-VOTEBUSH). You must conduct at least one bivariate and one multivariate analysis (see notes below). Your multivariate analysis must include at least three variables (one dependent and at least two independent) and at least one must be an attitudinal variable (e.g. not just demographics such as race, income, etc). Your final write up can be no longer than 7 double spaced typed pages, including tables or equations.

Papers will be evaluated according to creativity, organization, and grammar and spelling. A well organized, carefully written paper is better than a poorly organized but very creative paper. Papers will also be credited insofar as they can include citations to appropriate readings from the course.

Your write up must include the following components in your paper:

1) An introductory section where you specify the concepts and theories that you are going to test. This will be evaluated according to the standards for good concepts and theories described in the readings.

2) You must include a paragraph which describes the specific operationalizations that you have chosen. Make sure you include specific hypotheses for your dependent and independent variables. You must make specific, directional claims about these relationships.

3) You must present at least one TWO-WAY (crosstabular, correlation or difference of means) relationship and interpret this relationship.

4) You must present one MULTIVARIATE analysis with at least three variables, one dependent and two independent variables. You must interpret the effects for at least TWO of the independent variables. Are your hypotheses confirmed or disconfirmed?

5) Finally, in your conclusion, you should consider what was not included, alternative models, etc.