

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Paper Assignment

- October 17 – Write a title, and a 1 paragraph abstract
- November 7 – Submit a First Draft of your paper
- November 21 – Submit a Second Draft of the paper
- December 5 – Submit a Final Draft of the paper

You will write an 8 page paper on the topic of your choice. The constraints are that it must pertain to statistical phenomena in science, technology, games, the news, or life in general.

Some suggestions include (but are certainly not limited to): gene mutations and evolution, chaos & the “butterfly effect”, radioactive decay, forensics and criminology.

You are encouraged to express opinions, but your basic description must be fact based, and that means research. I expect at least 4 outside references (which must be appropriately cited), no more than one of which may be a webpage.

Your paper may be descriptive (rather than persuasive – you need not convince me of any controversial ideas), but it must be well-presented, contain good grammar and be spell-checked. You also should explicitly describe how your topic ties into the general theme of the course.

The paper is to be approximately 8 pages, double-spaced (in addition to bibliography). While it is certainly possible for a good paper to be written which is somewhat shorter or longer, this should probably be a decent benchmark.