



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND  
LIFE SCIENCES

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Dear Client:

Welcome to CALS Statistical Programs! We are a free service for all affiliates of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. This office provides support for research including experimental design and planning, data preparation, analysis and visualisation, and final reporting. Our goal is to enable you to meet your research goals through consultation. We also are available for collaboration on large projects needing additional support. Unfortunately, we cannot provide help with University coursework, but the [Statistics Assistance Center](#) provides support for some statistics courses.

### How to get the most of your consulting meeting:

- Have meeting objectives. What do you want to accomplish when meeting with us? What do you want to know from your data overall? What are your research objectives for the work pertaining to your consulting meeting? Are you planning a study, conducting exploratory analysis, doing predictive modelling, testing a research hypothesis or something else?
- If accomplishing a statistical analysis is one of your meeting goals, please bring a laptop and have your data stored on it (or be able to access your data from your laptop). We can also meet over Zoom or Teams, which can make it easier to share data and code. As best as possible, ready your data for analysis: organise the data appropriately and calculate all required transformations. A guide by Broman and Woo ([2018](#)) provides some useful best practices for organizing data for downstream analysis.
- Be prepared to give us a short summary of your work. You are an expert, and we likely know very little about your specific research problem. A short explanation of (5-10 minutes) helps us understand the context so we can best support your research aims.

Taking the time to review these ensures we can use our time most efficiently and help you meet your goals. Thank you and I look forward to meeting with you.

Warm Regards,

Julia Piaskowski