ISyE 2028 – Basic Statistical Methods - Fall 2015
Bonus Project: "Big" Data Analytics
Academic Performance of Georgia Tech Student Athletes
Proposal

Arthi Nithi

Once I joined Tech I began powerlifting and had to find a way to manage my time spent studying and in the gym. I found it difficult at times to finish my homework, while maintaining my gym schedule. Powerlifting is an individual sport outside of Georgia Tech, so in that sense I was lucky to choose when and how to train, unlike the team sports and sports within the school. I believe many other student athletes, whether it be intramurals, club sports, or the Georgia Tech athletic department, face similar challenges. Their performance academically varies depending on (1) hours spent for their sport, (2) hours spent in class and/or studying, and (3) what they are studying. By collecting this data from various students at this school, as well as their GPA, I predict that most students within the athletic department do not have as high grades as those involved in club sports, intramurals, or outside Georgia Tech.

I plan to get my data mainly from a survey (Google Form) I will send out to Georgia Tech students via Facebook and email. In this survey I will asked current GPA, major, and sport. I will also ask students to approximate the amount of time they spend in class, studying, and playing their sport. I will also draw data from these two websites that provide studies on academic performance of Georgia Tech athletes (D-1) and on college athletes in general.

http://www.ramblinwreck.com/genrel/060101aaa.html

http://www.newhaven.edu/27084.pdf

This first link reflects performance of GT students from the early 2000s, and gives statistics on the ratio of athletes who made the Dean's list. The second website gives

information on the SAT scores and high school GPAs of Georgia Tech students, as well as students from other colleges.

Using this data, I want to recognize which sports require the most commitment. I want to also see the difference in how much time should be put into studies for a certain major versus how much actually is. I will also make charts that show the average amount of times most students spend in classes, studying, and practice overall. This will give me an idea of what I should compare an individual's response to. I predict that students in individual sports will perform better academically as opposed to people on teams. I also predict people part of the athletic department will generally have lower GPAs than other Tech students, with a few outliers.