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ISYE 2028 Extra Credit Project Proposal

For my project, I would like to determine the general political leanings of the Georgia Tech population based on each student's chosen major by posing the question of which major political party (if any) they plan on voting for in the upcoming 2016 United States presidential election. The options presented will be Democrat, Republican, unsure, or other. I believe there is likely to be a noticeable difference in the leanings of Tech students as personality and temperament likely affect both decisions for most people. Knowing this information would not only be interesting, but also helpful in organizing political or public interest events at Tech by knowing how to market to different sub groups of the Georgia Tech community.

The data source I will use will be the Georgia Tech undergraduate student body. To obtain the results, I will post surveys on Facebook asking people to list their major and what party they plan on voting for in the 2016 presidential election. If I do not obtain enough results this way, I will send out a link to the survey to several organizations on campus which I am a part of until I have a large enough sample size to make any sort of conclusions.

My belief is that students with more technical majors will be more likely to lean Republican than students of other majors. I suspect that there are likely more people who are planning to vote Democrat than Republican overall, including in technical majors, but that the proportion of students planning to vote Republican will be at least 10% greater in engineering students than all non-engineering students. I will use hypothesis testing using z scores and p values to determine if this hypothesis is correct, using an alpha of .05 to obtain a 95% confidence level.