Exercises for an Introductory Research Methods Course

There is a set of 13 <u>instructional exercises</u> available for a research methods course on the Social Science Research and Instructional Council's <u>website</u>. These exercises use the <u>Monitoring the Future 2015</u> <u>survey</u> of high school seniors as the data base for the exercises. This survey is freely available through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. They also use SDA (Survey Documentation and Analysis) as the statistical package to analyze the data. SDA was developed by the Survey Methods Program at UC Berkeley and is freely available to anyone with internet access. There are <u>notes on using SDA</u> which you might find helpful.

The exercises cover most of the topics that an instructor would cover in a research methods course. Here are the links to the 13 exercises.

- RESEARCH_METHODS_1RM Research Design
- RESEARCH METHODS 2RM Sampling
- RESEARCH METHODS 3RM Measurement
- RESEARCH METHODS 4RM Data Collection (Survey Research)
- RESEARCH METHODS 5RM Hypotheses and Hypothesis Testing
- RESEARCH METHODS 6RM Introduction to Data Analysis
- RESEARCH METHODS 7RM Central Tendency and Dispersion
- RESEARCH METHODS 8RM Graphs and Charts
- RESEARCH_METHODS_9RM Crosstabulation
- RESEARCH METHODS 10RM Chi Square
- RESEARCH METHODS 11RM Measures of Association
- RESEARCH METHODS 12RM Spuriousness
- RESEARCH METHODS 13RM Writing Research Reports

You have permission to use these exercises and to revise them to fit your needs. Each exercise has a set of keywords describing what is covered in that exercise. There is a spreadsheet that allows you to quickly see the topics covered in each exercise.