

## **MIS0855: Data Science**

### **In-Class Exercise on Friday, Jan 23 – Finding Sources of Data**

**Objective:** Identify uses for data from open data sites.

(Open data is the blanket term for publicly available data sets that can be used freely and without restriction. Usually this data comes from government sources.)

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Navigate metadata repositories and explore the data sets
- Understand the types of data available through open data sources
- Formulate possible uses for new data sets

#### **Step 1: Explore - individual (10 minutes)**

1) Visit these open data sites:

<http://www.data.gov>

<http://www.opendataphilly.org>

Browse each site to get a feel for what kind of data is available from each one. Navigating these sites can be a little cryptic; look for “Data” tabs and “View the Dataset” and “Download” buttons.

2) Identify two data sets from each site that are interesting to you. Make sure you write down the name of the data set so you can find it again!

#### **Step 2: Prepare – group (15 minutes)**

- 1) In groups of three or four, compare and discuss your lists.
- 2) Select two data sets from each site (Data.gov and OpenDataPhilly) that you want to share with the class.
- 3) Identify how that data could be used. What kind of decisions can we make to make things better? Be creative!
- 4) Designate a member of your group to be the spokesperson.

#### **Step 3: Class Discussion (20 minutes)**

Each group will briefly report out with their best ideas.

Send your group’s note to [minsang@temple.edu](mailto:minsang@temple.edu) by 10:00 AM.