

Grading Aids Rmarkdown Program

This computer script takes grades and comments recorded in a single excel file, in this case from the Federalist debates, and creates a pdf sheet for each student that can either be handed back in to the student in class or uploaded on ELC (Blackboard, etc.). The use of it can make grading much more efficient, partly because some comments will be repeated, like team grades, and partly because you may need a centralized file to grade items, like presentations during debates.

Administration

The zipped folder contains the R and Rmarkdown scripts needed to generate pdfs for each student. Please copy all of the files to a single directory, keeping the file names and directory structure in tact. The excel file that you use as input is in the \data subdirectory. The output you create will appear in the \pdfs subdirectory. There are two files that you might modify:

main.R is an R file that reads data from excel, aggregates it, and calls Rmarkdown through a loop for each student.

gradeTemplateFederalist.Rmd is an R markdown file containing the format of the each pdf you will create.

Of course, your student's names and grades must be recorded in \data\sample_grade_sheets.xlsx following the format already in that file. If you change the headers or the order of information, you will have to modify main.R. Make sure that student names are in alphabetical order in each tab of sample_grade_sheets.xlsx.

Before you compile the output, you will have to install two packages in R:

```
install.packages("tidyverse")  
install.packages("knitr")
```

Then open Rstudio, open <pullFromXlsToPDF.Rproj> which finds the appropriate path, and open and run <main.R>. This approach allows the script to work on Linux, Mac, or Windows for just about any path. Rstudio should do the rest.