Exercises for an Introductory Research Methods Course

There is a set of 13 instructional exercises available for a research methods course on the Social Science Research and Instructional Council’s website. These exercises use the Monitoring the Future 2015 survey 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 notes on using SDA 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.