FMS1203S: Randomness in scientific thinking

Week 13
Final Assignment

- Write an essay on the topics you have presented in the semester (maximum two pages excluding the references).
- The essay should consists of INTRODUCCION, MAIN BODY, CONCLUSION and REFERENCES. The main body can itself consist of logically related parts or sections.
- In the essay, you should give a brief review on the topics you have presented. The major points of each topic should be discussed, though not in detail.
- The essay should also include your reflection and your comments on those topics.
- The essay should be written with a scientific writing style.
- The completed essay should be submitted to IVLE folder: student submission/final report by 17:00, April 19, Wednesday.
Scientific Writing Style

- Different scientific fields have different conventions on writing.
- Individual journals within a field usually have their own style guides, for instance, http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/gta/
- Some style guides recommend against use of the passive voice, while some encourage it.
- In some fields, it is customary to report in the present tense (for example, in mathematical sciences), whereas some fields recommend past tense.
Scientific Writing Style

- Common features of scientific writing:
  - Plain and accurate (rather than rhetorical flourishes).
  - Clear and concise.
  - Order and organization.
  - Write in complete sentences.
  - Every paragraph has a topic sentence and the paragraph content supports the topic.
  - Do not use colloquial speech, slang, or "childish" words or phrases.
  - Do not use contractions: for example, "don’t" must be "do not" and "isn’t" must be "is not" etc.
References and Plagiarism

- References to other works are an integral component of any research paper.
- The usual practice to make a reference to a work is to summarize the finding or other information in your own words and then cite the source.
- Any ideas or other information that are not your own must be substantiated by a reference.
- The source of cited works should be given in detail in the section REFERENCES.
- Plagiarism:
  - Use of others’ words, ideas, images, etc. without citation is considered as plagiarism.
  - Paraphrasing other’s words too closely may also be construed as plagiarism in some circumstances.
  - Plagiarism can be easily avoided by adequately referencing any and all information you use from other sources.