CS199 (Spring 2018): Thinking Critically About Data
Assignment #1

Date handed out: April 3, 2018
Date due: April 5, 2018 at the start of class
Total: 15 points

1. (5 points) Bring an example to class of a news story, tweet, facebook post, or other claim that you think may be deserving of follow-up. You don’t have to track it to the source to find out if it’s true or false. The claim should be based somehow in data, statistics, and/or graphics.

2. (10 points) Read Carl Sagan’s “The Fine Art of Baloney Detection,” linked on the course website. In no more than 250 words total, summarize a) one key point you took away from the article, and b) one discussion question for the class to share. Examples of discussion questions include clarification questions about something you didn’t fully understand, questions about how the article relates to something else we talked about in class, or points about which you’re curious to hear others’ opinions.