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# SAS Enterprise Guide: A Primer for IR Applications

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# What is SAS Enterprise Guide?

- SAS EG gives you the power of SAS through a point and click graphical user interface (GUI).
- What is it used for?
  - From simple to in-depth data analysis
  - Statistical analysis
  - It can produce charts, graphs, and tables
- We're only going to cover a small part of what SAS EG can do.

# Comparison to other IR tools

- Excel
- Access
- SPSS
  
- Added advantage, you can save and re-run processes.

# Data Analysis – what we will show you today

- Import files
- Build queries
- Perform file joins
- Create a computed column
- How to unduplicate records
- Use Filters
- Run statistical analysis

# Research Questions

1. What is the unduplicated number of first-time freshmen each fiscal year?
2. What is the unduplicated number of first-time freshmen each fall/spring?
3. What percentage of fall first-time freshmen are college ready each fiscal year?
4. What is the fall-to-spring retention of fall first-time freshmen by college-readiness each fiscal year?
5. Are there significant differences in the retention rates of fall first-time freshmen by college-readiness?

# SAS EG compared to other IR tools

	SAS Advantages	SAS Disadvantages
Excel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allows for merging of multiple files via multiple keys</li><li>• GUI Interface provides clear process map for identifying sequence of steps</li><li>• Original data intact after processes make changes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Query outputs temporary by default</li><li>• Data set edits may not remain after exit</li><li>• Output not user-friendly</li><li>• Requires database skills/way of thinking</li></ul>
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GUI Interface provides clear process map for identifying sequence of steps</li><li>• Base code captured to allow for subsequent editing/usage</li><li>• Error checking pinpointing specific offending code</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Less institution-wide usage</li><li>• Costly compared to “free” component of MS Office</li><li>• Training less available and more costly</li></ul>
SPSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allows for merging of multiple files via multiple keys</li><li>• Handles text manipulation (e.g., substrings &amp; concatenation)</li><li>• More flexibility and complexity possible in computed columns and filters</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does not handle labels (variable, value) and missing values as well</li><li>• Reporting formats not as user friendly</li><li>• Some statistical processes do not have same flexible options (e.g., MANOVA)</li><li>• Not all processes available via point and click; need to know programming</li></ul>

# Interested?

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# Thank you

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