## HOW TO CREATE A HISTOGRAM WITH EXCEL

1. Open or input a data set. I'm using the grades data for the example.

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2. Determine your desired number of classes and corresponding class width. Input the end value for each class and enter it into the spreadsheet in a column headed "bins."

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3. The first time you go to create a histogram, you must make sure the "Analysis ToolPak" is loaded. In order to do this, follow these instructions:

## Load the Analysis ToolPak

- 1. Click the **File** tab in the upper left hand corner of the spreadsheet.
- 2. Click **Options** in the drop down menu on the left hand side.
- 3. Click **Add-Ins** in the new drop down menu on the left hand side.
- 4. Select Analysis ToolPak from the list of available add-ins and click Go.
- Check Analysis ToolPak In the Add-Ins available box, and then click Ok. Data Analysis should now be available in the Analysis group under the Data tab.

After you've loaded the Analysis ToolPak on a given PC, you should not need to do this again.

4. Under the Data tab, click Data Analysis>Histogram>OK. The Histogram dialog box appears. Indicate the input range and bin range (these can be done by marking the appropriate ranges with your mouse), check the labels box (assuming that both your data and your classes are labeled), then check the "Chart Output" box.

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## 5. Click OK in the dialog box. Excel gives the following result:

Eliminate the "More" category (it is empty) by left clicking on the More row in the spreadsheet (row 8 in the example). Then right click on the mouse to pull up the menu and left click on delete.

6. Close the gaps on the histogram bars by right clicking on any one of the histogram bars and then left clicking on "Format Data Series" in the menu that appears. Push the Gap Width slider over to "No Gap."



7. Further editing (e.g., titles, axis fonts, etc.) can be accomplished by clicking anywhere in the chart and then editing appropriately as demonstrated in class.



See the discussion on pp. 66-67 in the text for more Excel tips.