

Instructions for Accessing Stata Through the Virtual Open Access Lab (VOAL) at Texas A&M University

Organized by Michael Upchurch and Ernesto Amaral

– Install vWorkspace

(You have to follow these steps just once)

To use the Virtual Open Access Lab (VOAL), you must enable your Open Access Lab (OAL) account at the Manage OAL Account page:

<https://oalinfo.tamu.edu/Account/ContentPages/ViewAccount.aspx>

You should see this row in the Manage OAL Account page, after you login to the link above:
“AUTH Account Status: Account enabled”

Then, visit <https://voal.tamu.edu/> to start using the VOAL. Type your user name, password, and choose “tamu.edu” as the domain.

The page will ask you to install the “vWorkspace” connector. Download the installation file. Install the application.

Save vWorkspace shortcut on desktop and/or taskbar in your computer.

– Access vWorkspace

(You have to follow these steps every time you want to connect to VOAL)

Open the vWorkspace application.

In the first window, type <https://voal.tamu.edu/>.

In the next window, if you are using the TAMU wireless connection, select “On Campus.”

In the next window, type your TAMU user name and password.

Click on “My Applications” and click on VOAL. The first time you log on, it will take a while to open a Windows screen on your computer.

– Organize applications and course material in VOAL

(You have to follow these steps just once)

Find Stata from the Start menu. Save Stata shortcut on desktop, Start menu, and/or taskbar in VOAL.

You may want to bookmark Professor Amaral’s course website in the internet browser:

<http://www.ernestoamaral.com/stata2018a.html>

Download the GSS data from course website:

<http://www.ernestoamaral.com/docs/Stata2018a/course.zip>

You will get a compressed file (course.zip). Go to “File Explorer” application and click on the file.

Choose “Extract all” at the top. The course folder should be saved in network (nt or H: drive)

Open the course folder and click on the data folder. You can open databases of the General Social Survey (GSS) by double clicking on any of the files (GSS2000.dta to GSS2016.dta).