Instructions for Getting StaRted

The easiest way to get started using R on your own computer (offline) is to download R and RStudio. You need R to have your computer be able to interpret R code. RStudio is a nice application that makes it easier to navigate using R.

- You can get both here: https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/
- Follow the link under step 1 to download R to your computer (choose the right one for your OS). (Note that once you've downloaded R from here, you don't need to open anything. It just 'lives' on your computer, kind of like downloading a font from the internet.)
- Then follow the link under step 2 to download the RStudio Desktop app. This is the app you'll open to use R. (Technically you can use R without RStudio, this just makes it easier).
- As a first step, I recommend opening up the attached .qmd file in your new RStudio Desktop app. You'll see that my instructions are slightly tweaked here to be specific to this environment. Quarto is a file type made by RStudio that is very similar to the notebook format we used online today. The main difference is that you can easily use it offline on your computer, and here you can easily read in your own data files, etc.
- I recommend reading the Quarto document and going through each section of the code, one at a time. I've tried to explain everything as best I can (while leaving out some details when less needed), but please email me with any questions.
- If you have some data you'd like to read into R, here is a useful starter guide: https://rstudio.github.io/cheatsheets/html/data-import.html with many different routes to take. I encourage you to try this, and then adapt our code from today (filter/count, gf_point, etc.) to see how it goes. And again, email me with any questions!