MSc in Statistical Science

• From 2017-18 the MSc has a new name: it is now the MSc in Statistical Science. The syllabus/course structure is almost the same as last year.

• Full details about the MSc are available at:
  – www.stats.ox.ac.uk/study_here/msc_in_statistical_science
  – www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/msc-statistical-science

• The admission requirements are available at:
  – www.stats.ox.ac.uk/study_here/msc_in_statistical_science/FAQs
  – www.stats.ox.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/14475/MScPrerequisites.pdf

Summary

The MSc is made up of:

- Two exams (each worth 25%)
- Assessed practicals (25%)
- Dissertation (25%)

- Assessed practicals at various points in Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity Terms.
- Exams in Trinity Term (usually late May).
- Dissertation project – the main period for project work (about 3 months) is after the exams until the dissertation submission deadline in early September.

Michaelmas Term

Core courses:
  - Applied Statistics
  - Foundations of Statistical Inference
  - Statistical Programming

Optional courses:
  - Probability and Statistics for Network Analysis
  - Graphical Models
  - Stochastic Models in Mathematical Genetics

[The Actuarial Science lectures in MT are for background only, for the Hilary Term course on Actuarial Science. The MT material is not examinable.]
Hilary Term

Core courses:
- Computational Statistics
- Statistical Machine Learning
- Bayes Methods

Optional courses:
- Advanced Topics in Statistical Machine Learning
- Actuarial Science
- Advanced Simulation Methods

[There are no courses in Trinity Term.]

How many courses?

- You should do all 3 core courses, plus 1 optional course, in each of Michaelmas and Hilary Terms.
- The core courses are "core" in the sense that you are required to do assessed practicals on most of these courses, and the material in core courses can be assumed known in other courses and for projects.
- You can attend additional optional courses if you wish.
- But studying an additional course seriously would be considerable extra work so you should consider this carefully when planning your work.
- Most students are expected to do 4 courses per term.

Practicals

- You will attend the weekly practicals in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms (Friday mornings).
- Lecturer and demonstrators are present to provide assistance.
- In each of Michaelmas and Hilary Terms, 2 practicals are assessed.
- The hand-in deadline for assessed practicals is the Wednesday, at 12:00, after the Friday class. The practical exercises are available a couple of days before the Friday class.
- There is also a week-long practical in week 1 of Trinity Term which will contain 2 assessed practical questions.
- Most courses will also have some associated problems classes.

Supervision and Feedback

- Each student is allocated a departmental supervisor. Supervisors will normally be supervising several students and it is usual that supervisors will see their students together as a group. Supervisors might meet with their students up to four times a term.
- Feedback will be provided for each assessed practical, and can be discussed either with the supervisor or the lecturer of the course.