

SB1 and Practicals

October 2019

Expectations for SB1

- We expect you to attend lectures, practicals, intercollegiate classes.
- For practical assignments (assessed!) you must hand-in by the deadline – *there are penalties for being late* – as for Prelims Computational Maths projects. See the exam conventions – and we will also write to you about this.
- You should aim to get as much as you can out of each intercollegiate class and practical session – see the introduction to intercollegiate classes in Maths Inst at 2pm Friday week 1.

SB1 exam and practicals

- 66% of the USM for SB1 comes from the $2\frac{1}{2}$ -hour exam in the summer.
- The other 34% comes from 4 assessed practicals (8.5% each).
- There are 13 lectures and 2 assessed practicals on SB1.1, and the same again on SB1.2.
- The SB1 exam is $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, 2 questions will be set on SB1.1, 2 questions will be set on SB1.2, you may hand in as many answers as you wish, your best 3 answers will count towards your final mark – see the Examination Conventions for official details.

SB1.1 practicals

- Weeks 3, 5 & 8, Wed 2:00-3:30.
- Week 3, introductory practical, no assessed assignment.
- Weeks 5 & 8 each have assessed assignments.
- IT Teaching Lab LG.02, Stats Dept.
No signup, all students at the same time.
- Each assessed practical assignment will be available at the corresponding practical lab session and on the web. The lab sessions cover examples related to the assessed practical problem. The lecturer and a demonstrator will be present at each lab session.

SB1.2: 2 practicals, each with an assessed assignment, in HT.

The **hand-in deadlines** for SB1 assessed practicals are officially published in the Part B synopses.

They are:

- 1st practical: 12 noon Monday week 8, Michaelmas Term 2019
- 2nd practical: 12 noon Monday week 2, Hilary Term 2020
- 3rd practical: 12 noon Monday week 8, Hilary Term 2020
- 4th practical: 12 noon Monday week 2, Trinity Term 2020.

Hand-in your assessed practicals at Reception, Department of Statistics – by the deadline – together with a signed declaration of authorship.

See the Part B Synopses for details.

Plagiarism

Your assessed practical work must be your own unaided work.

When you hand-in each assessed practical, you also need to hand-in a declaration form saying that your practical is all your own work.

[E.g. This is as for Computational Maths in Prelims.]

We will also write to you about plagiarism, repeating the information here.

Plagiarism

See <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism>

“Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work or ideas as your own, with or without their consent, by incorporating it into your work without full acknowledgement. All published and unpublished material, whether in manuscript, printed or electronic form, is covered under this definition. Plagiarism may be intentional or reckless, or unintentional. Under the regulations for examinations, intentional or reckless plagiarism is a disciplinary offence.”

Especially related to SB1 practical work

- The practical work that you hand in must be your own.
- Do not copy any other person's practical report (and do not allow your own work to be copied). Although you may discuss the practicals with other students during practical classes for example, the report you hand in must be all your own work.
- E.g. in your practical report you need to give your own explanation of what you have found, not somebody else's.
- You will need to sign a statement confirming that the work you have handed in is all your own.

"The University regards plagiarism [...] as a serious matter. Cases will be investigated and penalties may range from deduction of marks to expulsion from the University, depending on the seriousness of the occurrence. Even if plagiarism is inadvertent, it can result in a penalty."

See <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism>

Using R

- The practicals require use of R: <https://www.r-project.org/>
- RStudio is also recommended: <https://www.rstudio.com/>
- There are links to some background R material, and to some basic R exercises and solutions on the web:

<http://www.stats.ox.ac.uk/~laws/SB1/>

http://www.stats.ox.ac.uk/~laws/SB1/SB1_practicals.html

- Use RStudio, Chrome or Firefox to view .R files (not Internet Explorer).
- If you are not familiar with R, and even if you are, it would be a good idea to make sure R is installed on your computer as soon as possible and try some, or even all, of the R exercises mentioned above before the introductory practical session in week 3.
- I strongly recommend that you work through the R examples, on your own computer, as they are covered in lectures.