MSc in Statistical Science Projects

Projects can be proposed on a variety of statistical topics. The dissertation is expected to include evidence that a student is capable of applying statistical research methods to realistic problems. Most dissertations will therefore contain an account of the analysis of some body of real data, but simulation and theoretical studies are also acceptable.

The dissertation project is mainly carried out over the summer period from late May (TT week 6) to the dissertation submission date in mid-September. Supervisors do not need to be in Oxford for the entire summer, but they are generally expected to meet with the student about 6 times (a few Skype meetings are also possible), with a recommended minimum of three face to face meetings. The supervisor is also expected to read one draft of the student's work.

Students are expected to find out most things by themselves through independent reading.

It is not the supervisor's job to undertake computer programming for the student, or to debug code produced by the student, and it is not part of the department's function to provide detailed advice on statistical programming. There may occasionally be a project of a computational nature in which the supervisor agrees in advance to provide specialist software development.

Software and hardware resources beyond those available in the computer laboratory should similarly be required only in rare circumstances. In general students will be assumed to be able to complete their projects comfortably in the allotted time using a single machine in the computer laboratories. If you can provide additional computing, e.g. servers that you or your research group own and are willing to share with the student, please state this in the computing requirements section.

Please send your MSc project proposals by the end of HT week 7 to hannah.harrison@stats.ox.ac.uk, with the following details:

Title:
Name of Supervisor:
Brief description:
Prerequisite courses/knowledge:
Computing required?
Data available?