

MATH-517

**Statistical computation and visualisation**

Mhalla Linda

| Cursus        | Sem.     | Type |
|---------------|----------|------|
| Ing.-math     | MA1, MA3 | Opt. |
| Mathématicien | MA1, MA3 | Opt. |
| Statistics    | MA1, MA3 | Obl. |

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Language of teaching       | English             |
| Credits                    | 5                   |
| Withdrawal                 | Unauthorized        |
| Session                    | Winter              |
| Semester                   | Fall                |
| Exam                       | During the semester |
| Workload                   | 150h                |
| Weeks                      | 14                  |
| <b>Hours</b>               | <b>4 weekly</b>     |
| Courses                    | 2 weekly            |
| Exercises                  | 2 weekly            |
| <b>Number of positions</b> | <b>45</b>           |

**It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.**

**Summary**

The course will provide the opportunity to tackle real world problems requiring advanced computational skills and visualisation techniques to complement statistical thinking. Students will practice proposing efficient solutions, and effectively communicating the results with stakeholders.

**Content**

- Modern statistical computing environments (e.g., R, Rstudio and Python)
- Aids to efficiency and reproducibility (e.g., GitHub, Markdown, Jupyter)
- Data management, wrangling, and ethics
- Statistical graphics (grammar, good practices, applications, and examples)
- Kernel density estimation and smoothing
- EM algorithm and applications
- Resampling methods for uncertainty assessment (bootstrap, jackknife, cross-validation), with applications to regression, time series, and dependent data
- Monte Carlo methods for sampling and numerical integration
- Introduction to Bayesian inference
- Markov chain Monte Carlo techniques (Gibbs sampler, Metropolis-Hastings algorithm, Hamiltonian Monte Carlo, convergence diagnostics) and software (e.g., Stan)

**Keywords**

Bayesian inference, Data visualisation, Data wrangling, EM algorithm, MCMC, Resampling methods, Statistical computation.

## Learning Prerequisites

### Required courses

- Probability and statistics
- Linear models

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Plan complex visualisation and computational tasks
- Perform complex visualisation and computational tasks
- Implement reproducible computational solutions to statistical problems in modern environments and platforms
- Expound the main approaches used for problem solving

## Transversal skills

- Take feedback (critique) and respond in an appropriate manner.
- Demonstrate the capacity for critical thinking
- Identify the different roles that are involved in well-functioning teams and assume different roles, including leadership roles.
- Write a scientific or technical report.

## Teaching methods

Two lecture hours per week, two hours of exercises and support on mini-projects and assignments

## Expected student activities

Students will work on individual assignments and mini-projects in teams

## Assessment methods

Contrôle continue

## Supervision

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Office hours | No  |
| Assistants   | Yes |
| Forum        | No  |

## Resources

### Bibliography

Wickham H. & Golemund G. (2017) R for Data Science  
Bootstrap Methods and their Application  
An Introduction to Statistical Learning

### Ressources en bibliothèque

- [Bootstrap Methods and their Application / Davison](#)

- [R for Data Science / Wickham](#)
- [An Introduction to Statistical Learning / Gareth](#)

**Moodle Link**

- <https://go.epfl.ch/MATH-517>

**Prerequisite for**

Applied Statistics (MATH-516)