
Introducing statistics M140

Presentation pattern *October to June*
February to September

Module description

Today, more than ever, statistics is part of our lives. From this key introductory course students will learn how to use basic statistical tools and quantitative methods that are useful in business, government, industry, medicine, the economy, and most academic subjects. Topics covered include: summarising data; examining relationships; randomness and sampling distributions; probability; testing hypotheses; and estimation. Using data from a range of applications, your students will learn practical statistical techniques and fundamental principles, as well as using software and a calculator to analyse data. The skills introduced will be ideal if they plan to study more mathematics courses. This course is also suitable for students of other subjects who need a basic knowledge of statistics.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the [generic person specification](#) for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a degree (or equivalent) in a subject area with substantial statistical content
- an interest in the application of statistics to real world data and questions, in building adults' confidence in statistics, and in the development of statistical learning skills relevant to study with The Open University
- ability to use e-learning facilities, such as:
 - the module website, and other University websites, to download essential material and to retrieve other information
 - University systems for the purposes of monitoring students' progress
 - e-mail and University forums for asynchronous communication with students, tutors, and other staff
 - online tutorials, blended with face-to-face sessions, where appropriate
 - on-screen marking of electronically submitted tutor-marked assignments.

The exact nature of e-learning facilities will evolve over the life of the module, and you will need to be prepared to adapt accordingly

It would be an advantage to have:

- experience of teaching statistical topics to adults or to students from a broad range of educational backgrounds
- experience of explaining statistical output and results to non statisticians
- familiarity with the use of interactive only resources for teaching statistics
- expertise in using statistical software, in particular MINITAB.

Additional information

- As students on this module will have the choice to submit their TMAs electronically, via the eTMA system, you will be required to mark and provide feedback on TMAs submitted electronically and to return the marked work as an electronic file, in the prescribed form, to the eTMA system. If you are invited for an interview and the latter involves an electronic marking exercise, some guidance will be given for this. Further information and advice will be available should you be appointed to the role.

There may be opportunities for ALs to undertake associated assessment work for which there will be additional payment and about which you will be contacted separately if applicable.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	30
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	4
Method of submission for assignments:	1b
Level of ICT requirements:	2
Number of students likely to be in a standard group:	20
Salary band:	4
Estimated number of hours per teaching week:	4