

# Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science

Orientation for  
MMath Data Science Students

Wednesday, Sept 5, 2018

# A Great Choice

- It is a very exciting time to be studying any of the “data sciences”
- These include: Statistics, Actuarial Science, Biostatistics and Quantitative Finance
- It has become widely understood that good decision making should be based on empirical evidence. This requires the “data sciences”

# Introductions

# The **MOST** important people

- Lisa Baxter - MMath (M3 3138)
- Mary Lou Dufton - PhD (M3 3137)
- Helen Chen - MQF and MActSci (M3 3139)

They know ALL the answers to your questions!

# Some (other) Department People

- *Chair:* Stefan Steiner
- *Assoc. Chair Act. Science:* David Landriault
- *Assoc. Chair Research:* Richard Cook
- *Assoc. Chair UnderGrad:* Pengfei Li
- *Assoc. Chair Grad:* Paul Marriott



# Graduate Student Reps

- Graduate Student Association

<https://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-student-association/>

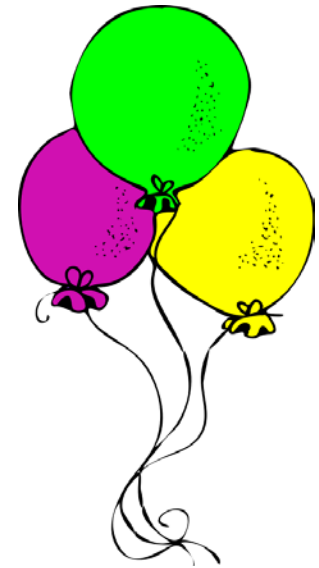
- Two graduate student reps will be announced shortly

# Department Social

When? Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 4:30pm

Where? M3, Bruce White Atrium

What?      Food  
              Drinks  
              Fellow students  
              Professors



# MMath Data Science

- This is a new program and differs from MMath Statistics in that there is no essay or thesis component
- There are eight courses in the program all of which must be STAT or CS labelled
- You must take a minimum of 4 STAT courses



# MMath Data Science

- CS 600 Fundamentals of Computer Science for Data Science must be taken in the Fall term
- There are **two** core courses: STAT 847 Exploratory Data Analysis (Winter) and CS 631 Data-Intensive Distributed Analysis (Winter)
- You must take at least **one** of: STAT 841 Statistical Learning: Classification, STAT 842 Data Visualization, STAT 844 Statistical Learning: Function estimation

# MMath Data Science

- The remaining four courses must come from four additional elective courses from a list found here:
- <https://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies-academic-calendar/mathematics/departments-statistics-and-actuarial-science/master-mathematics-mm-math-statistics>
- See handout

# MMath Data Science

- Since you may not yet have a strong background in CS it might make sense to do the STATS courses first until you have completed CS 600
- CS courses fill up very fast but you are in the top priority group for all Data Science CS courses

# Academic Integrity

- mandatory online course
- access through learn.uwaterloo.ca
- watch out for email in your mailbox

# Harassment and Discrimination

- Harassment and Discrimination are issues taken seriously by the University of Waterloo
- mandatory online course
- access through [learn.uwaterloo.ca](http://learn.uwaterloo.ca)

# Departmental Seminars

- Thursdays, 16:00 – 17:00
- great way to get educated **for real**
- try to attend as many as you can
- Don't be afraid to ask question!

# Your UW Email



- your UW email, e.g., `jdoe@uwaterloo.ca`
  - your responsibility to manage it
  - free to forward to gmail, yahoo, ...
  - but excuses such as “I don’t check my uwaterloo email” are NOT acceptable

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  - your responsibility to manage it
  - free to forward to gmail, yahoo from your Watlam account from [jdoe@connect.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jdoe@connect.uwaterloo.ca)
  - Ensure you set you gmail to send as if from `jdoe@uwaterloo.ca`
  - but excuses such as “I don’t check my uwaterloo email” are NOT acceptable



# Computing

- MFCF will be running a number of information sessions. You **must** go to one of these
- Fri. Sept 7 11:00-12:00 **M3- 3103**
- Thurs. Sept 13 3:50-4:50 **M3- 3103**
- Fri. Sept 14 1:00-2:00 **M3- 3127**

# Problems, Questions

- People to ask ..
  - Supervisor or Program Advisor (...)
  - Grad Student Reps
  - Grad Coordinators Lisa (Mmath), Mary Lou (PhD)
  - Associate Chair of Grad Studies (Paul)