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 Landriuault

• 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\textsuperscript{th} 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/department-statistics-and-actuarial-science/master-mathematics-mmath-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
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
Your UW Email

• your UW email, e.g., jdoe@uwaterloo.ca
  – your responsibility to manage it
  – free to forward to gmail, yahoo from your Watlam account from 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)