



University
of Exeter

COURSEWORK SPECIFICATION

ECMM443/COM2015 – Intro to Data Science

Module Leader: Xiaoyang Wang

Academic Year: 2025/26

Title: Introduction to Data Science - Workshops Portfolio

Submission deadline: Wed 10th December 2025, 12:00 pm

This assessment contributes **70%** of the total module mark and assesses the following **intended learning outcomes**:

- Demonstrate competence in handling, exploring and visualising complex datasets.
- Discuss the roles and impact of data science in industry and society.
- Describe some of the main topics and techniques used in data science.
- Identify some ethical issues associated with data science in society and business.
- Use Python to explore data.
- With some guidance employ basic data science techniques to explore data.
- With some guidance use basic techniques in sub-disciplines of data science, such as machine learning, statistics, network analysis, machine vision and high-performance computing.
- Communicate ideas and techniques fluently using written means in a manner appropriate to the intended audience.
- Communicate ideas effectively in oral presentations.
- Work effectively as part of a team.

Plagiarism

This is an individual assessment.

Plagiarism is interpreted by the university as the act of presenting the work of others as one's own work, without acknowledgement. It is considered academically fraudulent and an offence against university discipline. Your attention is drawn to the [university's regulations on plagiarism](#).

Use of AI tools in AI-Integrated Assessments.

Assessment Title: ECMM443/COM2015 Workshops Portfolio

Module Code and Name: ECMM443/COM2015 Introduction to Data Science

The University of Exeter is committed to the ethical and responsible use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools in teaching and learning, in line with our academic integrity policies where the direct copying of AI-generated content is included under plagiarism, misrepresentation and contract cheating under definitions and offences in [TQA Manual Chapter 12.3](#).

This assessment falls under the category of **AI-Assisted** in the University's Guidance on use of GenAI in Assessment.

This is because using AI tools in specific ways can assist with your learning and will not inhibit fair assessment of your achievement of the module's intended learning outcomes.

This means: You may use GenAI tools when explicitly allowed to do so ethically and responsibly to assist in the development of an assessment.

The workshop tasks you are given each week will each have a statement on the allowed usage of AI in that activity.

In particular please note:

Unless explicitly allowed in an activity you must not:

- make use of a GenAI website to generate a code solution to a given task.
- use a code editor with integrated GenAI coding assistant enabled.

Unless explicitly forbidden you may:

- use a search engine to look for help on a general coding topic or issue you have run into, where the search engine may include a AI generated response.
- use a AI tool to assist in the translation of instructions into your first language.

ECMM443/COM2015 Workshops Portfolio

The 70% coursework in Introduction to Data Science requires you to submit the work completed during the weekly Thursday 12:35-13:25 workshop sessions. These will each be graded after submission (usually via automatic grading so marks can be returned to you the following week).

All workshop submissions from week 3 to 11 will be combined to form an assessed portfolio coursework, submitted in week 12. The aim is to ensure you learn at a consistent pace through the term, and the assessment method avoids adding to your workload at the end of term when you may have multiple large coursework assignments from other modules.

Your work from each lab will be submitted before the you leave the end of the session. The system for calculating grades allows students to miss a few sessions / submissions without impacting on your final grade, (so that you should not need to apply for mitigation unless you have an extended absence).

Workshop assessments will run according to the following schedule:

	WEEK											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
WORKSHOP ID	-	-	C1	C2	C3	-	C4	C5	A1	A2	A3	-
DIFFICULTY LEVEL	-	-	CORE	CORE	CORE	-	CORE	CORE	ADV.	ADV.	ADV.	-
MARK SCHEME	-	-	/65	/65	/65	-	/65	/65	/100	/100	/100	-

CORE level workshop tasks involve checking you can demonstrate the data science skills that we are teaching that week.

ADV. (advanced) level workshop tasks are designed to stretch your abilities and require them to apply the taught a mixture of skills to solve real world problems.

Grading

All student submissions are graded and the following values calculated:

M1: average grade in CORE tasks from best 3 submissions, with maximum mark of 65.

M2: average grade in ADV. tasks from best 2 submissions, with maximum mark of 100.

The final grade is then calculated in accordance with the cases below:

Case	Coursework Grade
Student has averages above 50 marks in both M1 and M2	Higher of M1 and M2
Student does not achieve the above standard.	Average of M1 and M2

Students will collate all their completed assessments into a portfolio of work (zip file) and upload via an ELE at the submission deadline.

Content

- Content will be based on the topics and practise exercises handed out in the previous workshop session. Students are expected to have completed these before attending the assessed workshops.
- For core weeks ungraded extension tasks will be set for students finishing the core activities early. It is expected that students who keep up with the module progression will be able to achieve high marks in core weeks.
- Advanced tasks will be designed to take the full workshop session. Marks for these weeks will align with the standard university grade boundaries where a mark above 70 indicates the student is working at the First Class standard.
- In addition to assessed tasks students will also be given extension work to complete after finishing and submitted work for grading.
- To avoid advantage where one group of students sit workshops at different times, tasks set for different repeat sessions may be adjusted but designed to be of equal difficulty.

Extenuating Circumstances

- When module numbers are large so that the computer labs are split between two or more sessions, students may request in advance to switch to an alternative session if space allows.
- Any missed assessment will be recorded with a mark of 0. However students can miss two core, and one advanced sessions over the term without limiting their overall grade.
- In some cases students may have an issue at the deadline for submission of the portfolio e.g. they have not been able to complete the required number of workshops. In this case they may use one of their 1 week extensions, or make a request for extension mitigation to the Hub. Where a 1 week extension is applied students will be provided a further opportunity (in the week 12 workshop session) to take an assessment at core / advanced level before so they can complete their workshop portfolio within the extension period.
- At any point should extenuating circumstances (e.g. an extended absence) mean that a student cannot meet the coursework requirements even with the additional workshop, they should apply to the hub to defer the assessment, or if the issues relate to their ILP, they may request the university consider alternative reasonable adjustments.

Notes on grade calculation

- Marks are not scaled to a percentage when averaging to calculate portfolio grades.

- Core workshops are marked out of 65 because they do not enable students to demonstrate the full range of ability required for accessing the higher grades.

The following show examples of how the grade calculation works:

Example:

A student submits their portfolio of code. Their best three core submissions (M1) average 60 marks. Their best 2 advanced submissions (M2) average 75 marks.

Final module grade is 75% (higher of M1 and M2, as M1 and M2 are both above 50)

Example:

A student submits their portfolio of code. Their best three core submissions (M1) average 60 marks. Their best 2 advanced submissions (M2) average 55 marks.

Final module grade is 60% (higher of M1 and M2, as M1 and M2 are both above 50)

Example:

A student submits their portfolio of code. Their best three core submissions (M1) average 45 marks. Their best 2 advanced submissions (M2) average 55 marks.

Final module grade is 50% (average of M1 and M2, as M1 and M2 are not both above 50)

Example:

A student submits their portfolio of code. Their best three core submissions (M1) average 45 marks. They only attend one advanced workshops and get a mark of 60 in that, and are given 0 in the others. This means their best 2 advanced submissions (M2) average 30 marks.

Coursework grade is 37.5% (average of M1 and M2, as M1 and M2 are not both above 50)