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- Examination
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# Bayesian Statistics and Data Analysis Course information

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#### Section 1

Course information



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#### Course information

The aims of this course are that, after this course you should:



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#### Course information

The aims of this course are that, after this course you should:

- 1. have knowledge in basic concepts, philosophy, and perspectives in Bayesian Statistics,
- 2. derive posterior distributions in simple situations,
- 3. derive and use predictive distributions,
- 4. identify and formulate Bayesian probabilistic models for analysis and predictions,
- 5. estimate models using contemporary computer-based methods for posterior approximations,
- understand and use basic principles for decisions under uncertainty.
- 7. have knowledge about and be able to use Bayesian methods for model comparisons,
- 8. be able to critically evaluate Bayesian methods,
- 9. report, orally and in writing, a Bayesian statistical analysis



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#### Pre-requisites

- Basic probability theory
  - probability, probability density, distribution
  - sum, product rule, and Bayes' rule
  - expectation, mean, variance, median



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- Basic linear algebra and calculus



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  - expectation, mean, variance, median
- Basic linear algebra and calculus
- Basic visualisation techniques (R or Python)
  - histogram, density plot, scatter plot



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First assignment is a recap.



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#### Course Outline

#### Two main parts:

• Core Content (9 lecture blocks)



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#### Course Outline

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- Core Content (9 lecture blocks)
- Assignments (8 individual assignments)



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#### Course Outline

#### Two main parts:

- Core Content (9 lecture blocks)
- Assignments (8 individual assignments)
- Mini-project: do your own Bayesian data analysis (2-3 students)



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#### Course Outline

#### Two main parts:

- Core Content (9 lecture blocks)
- Assignments (8 individual assignments)
- Mini-project: do your own Bayesian data analysis (2-3 students)

Exact dates and details; see the course page.



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#### Core Content

- Every week: lectures/and assignments (approx. 2-4h)
  - Online video material and reading assignments (approx. 2-4h, 50-90 pages a week)
  - Lecture(s): present overall theory and content (overview)
  - Assignment(s): Computational and theoretical individual work. Start monday morning every week!
- An individual assignment (approx. 12-16h). Deadline Sundays 23.59.



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  - Assignment(s): Computational and theoretical individual work. Start monday morning every week!
- An individual assignment (approx. 12-16h). Deadline Sundays 23.59.
- Recommended workflow for each week
  - Do the reading assignments
  - Watch the videos (although, optional)
  - Do self-study exercises
  - Start with the assignment
  - Attend lecture (bring questions!)
  - Attend datalabs (bring questions!)
  - Submit the assignment



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#### Section 2



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 Core components and concepts and state-of-the-art methods



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- Core components and concepts and state-of-the-art methods
- 2. Warning! There might be bugs in the assignments!



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- Core components and concepts and state-of-the-art methods
- 2. Warning! There might be bugs in the assignments!
- All labs can be turned in a three times (but use the first).See Studium for details.



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- Core components and concepts and state-of-the-art methods
- 2. Warning! There might be bugs in the assignments!
- All labs can be turned in a three times (but use the first).See Studium for details.
- 4. We will mark and return each assignment within 10 working days.



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- 5. Important! Do not write your name anywhere



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- 6. Important! Do the assignment evaluation!



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- 5. Important! Do not write your name anywhere
- 6. Important! Do the assignment evaluation!
- 7. Three one hour zoom seminars per week with individual help on assignments.



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- 8. We supply grading information for all assignments. Although, they may change!



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- 4. We will mark and return each assignment within 10 working days.
- 5. Important! Do not write your name anywhere
- 6. Important! Do the assignment evaluation!
- 7. Three one hour zoom seminars per week with individual help on assignments.
- 8. We supply grading information for all assignments. Although, they may change!
- 9. We have quite strict formatting guidelines. Read carefully!



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 We strongly recommend using R in the course as there are more packages for Stan and statistical analysis in general in R



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- If you are already fluent in Python, but not in R, then using Python may be easier, but it can still be more useful to learn also R



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- We supply a Google Colab template with everything pre-installed.



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- We strongly recommend using R in the course as there are more packages for Stan and statistical analysis in general in R
- If you are already fluent in Python, but not in R, then using Python may be easier, but it can still be more useful to learn also R
- We supply a Google Colab template with everything pre-installed.
- We also supply a knitR LATEX template suitable for Overleaf.



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#### Stan

- Stan is a probabilistic programming framework (PPF) and ecosystem
- 40+ developers, 100+ contributors, 100K+ users
- R, Python, Julia, Scala, Stata, Matlab, command line interfaces
- More than 120 R packages using Stan
- Many packages to support diagnostics and workflow
- Can be used for frequentist inference as well
- Alternative PPF exists, Turing (Julia), Pyro (PyTorch), etc.





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Section 3



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- See project instructions on webpage for details.
- Data analysis of choice on real data.
- 2-3 students.



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- See project instructions on webpage for details.
- Data analysis of choice on real data.
- 2-3 students.
- Supply a half-page project proposal of data and problem in the middle of the course.



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- See project instructions on webpage for details.
- Data analysis of choice on real data.
- 2-3 students.
- Supply a half-page project proposal of data and problem in the middle of the course.
- Ideally, use a model not presented in this course.
- Project will last two weeks (half time) but start earlier.
- The project should use Stan.
- Approximate 40 hours of work per student.



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- See project instructions on webpage for details.
- Data analysis of choice on real data.
- 2-3 students.
- Supply a half-page project proposal of data and problem in the middle of the course.
- Ideally, use a model not presented in this course.
- Project will last two weeks (half time) but start earlier.
- The project should use Stan.
- Approximate 40 hours of work per student.
- The project should result in a 4 page report (PDF) using the ICML LaTeX template (see course page).
- Project oral presentation (10-15 minutes)



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#### Section 4

#### **Practicalities**



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#### **Practicalities**

 Course page/content: Github – please do a PR if something is wrong!



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- Course page/content: Github please do a PR if something is wrong!
- Communication: Studium



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- Course page/content: Github please do a PR if something is wrong!
- Communication: Studium
- Schedule: Time Edit/Studium
- Assignments submissions: Studium



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- Course page/content: Github please do a PR if something is wrong!
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- Assignments submissions: Studium
- Acknowledgements: Aki Vehtari



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- Course page/content: Github please do a PR if something is wrong!
- Communication: Studium
- Schedule: Time Edit/Studium
- Assignments submissions: Studium
- Acknowledgements: Aki Vehtari
- Teaching assistant: Väinö Yrjänäinen



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#### Literature

 Book: Gelman, Carlin, Stern, Dunson, Vehtari & Rubin: Bayesian Data Analysis, Third Edition. (online pdf available)



• Additional articles and blog posts



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Section 5



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1. To pass (G): All labs, mini-project, and project review need to be passed



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- 1. To pass (G): All labs, mini-project, and project review need to be passed
- 2. To pass with distinction (VG): 7/10 VG points



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- To pass (G): All labs, mini-project, and project review need to be passed
- 2. To pass with distinction (VG): 7/10 VG points
- 3. If everything is correct in an assignment (¿90%), 1 VG point is awarded *on the first submission deadline*.



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- To pass (G): All labs, mini-project, and project review need to be passed
- 2. To pass with distinction (VG): 7/10 VG points
- 3. If everything is correct in an assignment (¿90%), 1 VG point is awarded *on the first submission deadline*.
- 4. The mini-project is worth 2 VG-points (if it is passed with distinction).
- 5. Ph.D. students: I suggest you get VG to pass the course. Make the project a potential paper.
- 6. Reassesment of grades (supply form to course admin)
- 7. Failing the course: You will need to redo all assignments and mini-project.



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# Section 6

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# Course improvements since last time

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Multiple short TA sessions over zoom



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# Section 6

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# Comments from previous students

- Be ready to put the work in!
- Don't be afraid to ask questions.
- Try complete all the assignment on time.



# Questions?

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Questions?