# Stata Summer Series

## Stata 301 – Automating Tasks and Exporting Output

Previous Stata sessions laid out the fundamentals of interacting with Stata; setting up DO and LOG files to easily save, replicate, modify, and share your analysis and its results; and how to detect and deal with missing and special values as you check your work.

Stata 301 will help you automate your work by using global and local macros, loops, programs, and automated ways to output summary/descriptive statistics.

*What you will get out of this session:*

* Learn about global and local macros and their differences
* Learn about looping and the different looping syntax
* Learn about writing your own programs
* Ways to automate outputting descriptive/summary statistics (time permitting)

*Basic command structure*

**command objects conditions , options**

use file.dta , clear

generate age = 15 if AGE2 == 15

tabulate state if country == “US” , missing

*Helpful resources*

* Stata manual: access by typing “help command” in the stata console
* Statalist: <https://www.statalist.org/forums/forum/general-stata-discussion/general>
  + - Often will come up if you google a question that isn’t covered by the documentation
* UCLA IDRE: <https://stats.idre.ucla.edu/stata/>
  + - Provides helpful tips on how to use Stata as well as the statistics behind the programming
* UNC CPC: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/research/tools/data_analysis/statatutorial>
  + - Guide to working with and analyzing data in Stata

*Remember:* Getting errors is a normal part of programming! The best way to debug is to read through every line carefully.

*Next steps:*

* Come to our Stata Office Hours!