Introduction to Statistics for Social Science

SEM 2 - 2026

Practical information

- Tutor: Dalia Avello-Vega (dalia.avello-vega@ed.ac.uk)
- Tutorials:
  - Mondays 11-12
  - Tuesdays 9 - 10, 10-11

About you:

Name, year/programme

Why this course? Area of interest?

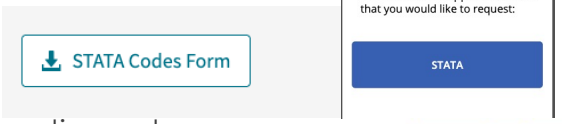
MacOS or Windows?

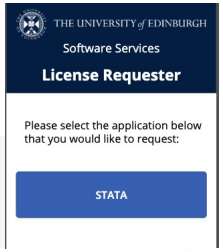
LABS

- THERE ARE NO SILLY QUESTIONS!
- STATA
- Foundation / useful skills for your future research work
  - File/data management (for reproducibility)
  - Reporting
    - Results
    - Tables, charts
    - Citation (references, software, data)

TASK 1: Install Stata

- If you have not installed Stata
  - Learn > Course Information > Stata Resources > Downloading Stata, click on first link
    - (If on campus) Skip to step 4
    - Click to request your license
    - STATA Codes Form > Complete form
    - Check Email and open link
    - Find the latest version available for your operating system
    - Install that version
    - Open Stata **SE**
    - Use information from the email to complete fields





The software and installation guide can be downloaded from:

https://uoe.sharepoint.com/sites/hss/resources/software-repository/SitePages/Stata-software-download.aspx

License and Activation Key Stata Software

```
Licensed software: StataNow/SE 19.5
License type: Unlimited-user Network
License term: Expires 14 September 2026
Serial number: 401909306847
Code: 3q3e purk 6ugu 7mz7 hmsp dt$7 30ym 9tas
7hsd 4
Authorization: uqmh
```

TASK 2: Create a folder for the course

- Go to OneDrive and create a folder for this course. You will use this folder this term to store data and Stata files (.do files)
- Get the path name to that folder
  - WINDOWS:
    - Without opening it, right click over the folder > Copy as path
  - MAC:
    - Learn > Course Information > Stata Resources > Setting up Stata resources > Finding path names on a Mac.pdf

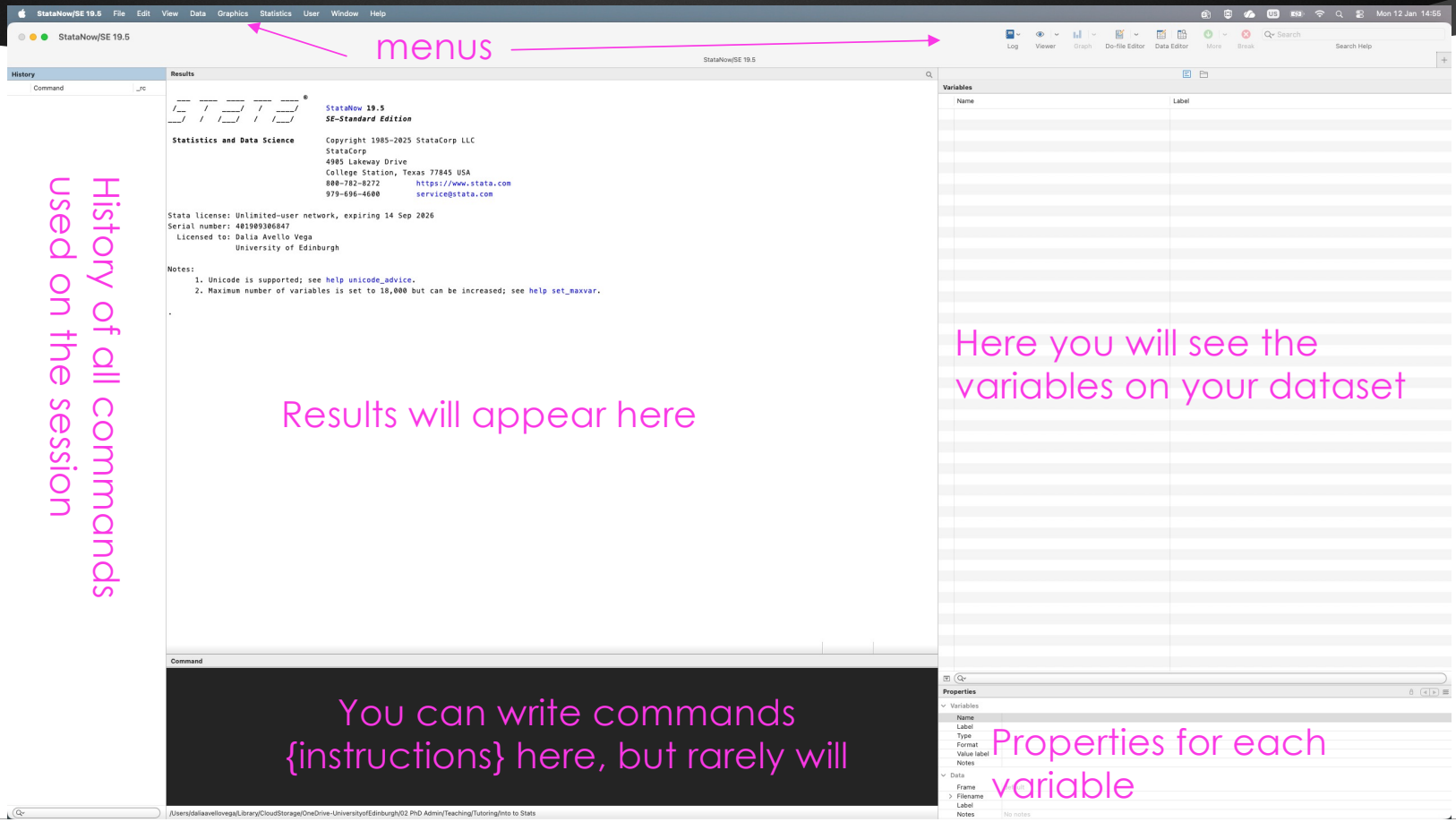
TASK 3: Getting dataset to your folder

- Add the teaching dataset to your folder
- Learn > Course Information > Dataset for Labs > Download ADRC_S dataset
- Save it to your course folder (the one you just created!)

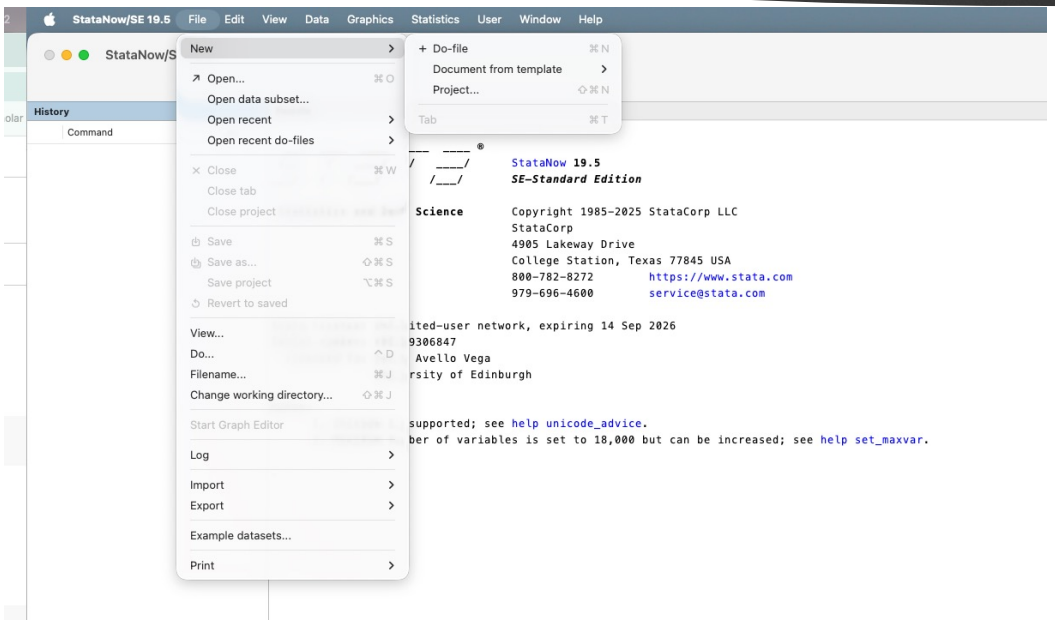
TASK 4: Week 1 Lab Materials

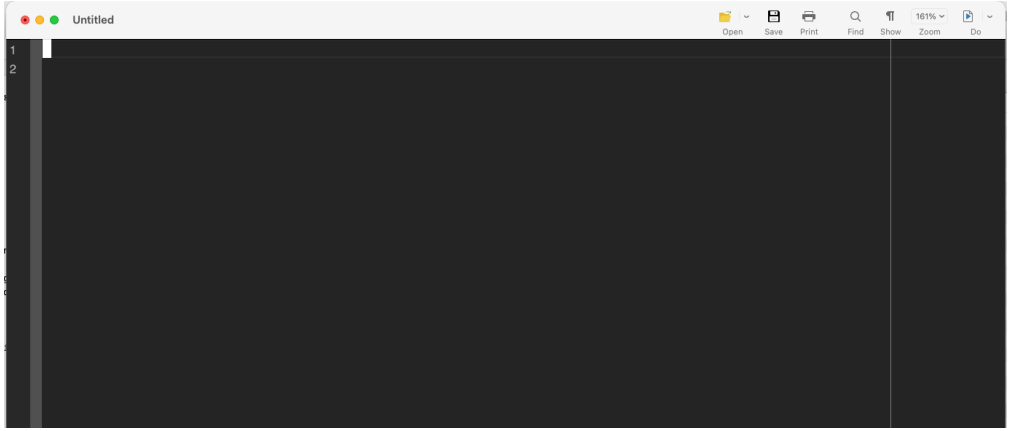
- Learn > Week 1 > Lab
- Download these files and save them to your course folder:
  - **Lab 1 assignment.docx**: Text document with the steps you need to complete today
  - **Lab 1 Stata code.do**: .do file you will use to complete the tasks for today

TASK 5: Open Stata



TASK 6: Create a new .do file to explore





TASK 7: Explore .do file set ups

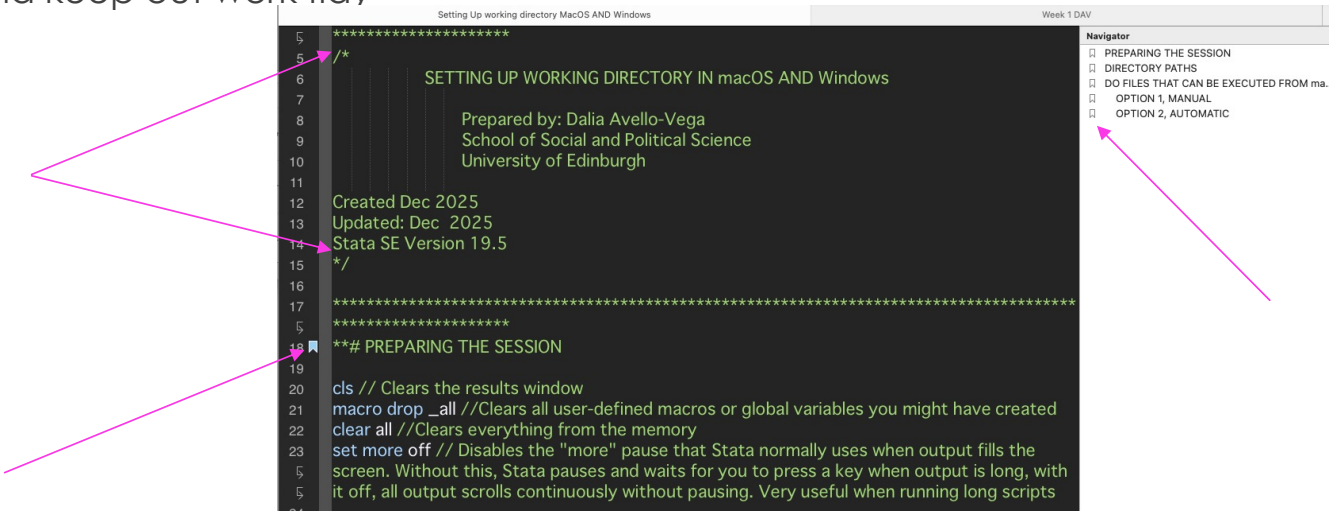
- We learned some useful tricks to set up our .do files
  - Write `STOP` at the beginning of your .do file to avoid it from accidentally running the code
  - Write descriptive information at the beginning of your .do file so you know what it's for and others can follow along

```
stop

*************************************************************************************************************
*************************************************************************************************************
/*
            SETTING UP WORKING DIRECTORY IN macOS AND Windows

                Prepared by: Dalia Avello-Vega
                School of Social and Political Science
                University of Edinburgh

Created Dec 2025
Updated: Dec  2025
Stata SE Version 19.5
*/

*************************************************************************************************************
```

```
*************************************************************************************************************
/*
Introduction to Statistics for Social Science (2025-2026)
WEEK 1 Tutorial

Prepared by: Dalia Avello-Vega
Created: January 12th, 2026
Updated:

Stata version: 19.5
Data:
Instructor's Last Name, First Initial. Second Initial if given. (Year Handout Was Created if known). Teaching Dataset name,
course name [Teaching Dataset]. Learn. URL/Course

For all the labs in this course, we will be using the ADRC_S training dataset. This is a fictitious dataset from the Administrative
Data Research Centre Scotland (ADRC_S) based on the UK General Household Survey. It contains information (variables) on
individuals living in the UK.
*/
```

TASK 7: Explore .do file set ups

- We can use /* to start a comment section (no executable code) and */ to close it
- We can use **# to create a section bookmark and **## to create a subsection bookmark. These will help us navigate the .do file when it gets longer and keep out work tidy



TASK 7: Explore .do file set ups

- Other useful commands to start our work session are available here (copy and paste to your own .do file as needed

Learn > Course Information > Stata Resources > Setting up Stata resources > Setting Up working directory MacOS AND Windows.do >

  - Preparing the session
  - Directory Path organization
  - Do Files that can be executed from Mac and PC {If you will switch between MacOS and PC (computer labs)}

TASK 8: Prepare your .do file for the lab

- In your course folder you should have the following files:
  - **Lab1 assignment.docx** {Instructions for the lab}
  - **week1_code.do** {basic .do file to get you started}
  - **ADRC_S.dta** {the dataset you will use}

TASK 8: Prepare your .do file for the lab

1. Open **week1_code.do** and set it up to get started with the work
   - `cd “”` {This is the command to set up your directory, inset the path you copied from your folder in between the quotation marks". For example:
     - `cd "/Users/daliaavellovega/Desktop/Into to Stats”`
   - Tell Stata to open the dataset:
     - `use ".../ADRC_S.dta"`
2. Open **Lab1 assignment.docx** and begin answering the questions, you can type the responses in the .do file or on the .doc

   We will check answers at the start of Lab 2

If in doubt….

- dalia.avello-vega@ed.ac.uk
- Otherwise, see you for Lab 2!