

# Weekly Oxford Worldwide

DEPARTMENT FOR  
CONTINUING  
EDUCATION



## Infectious Disease Modelling: Applied Methods in R Dr Emma L Davis

Seminar Week 1



## Week 1: Introduction to R

- Introductions
- How are these seminars going to work?
- Before we get started: some R basics
- Pair coding task



## Who am I?

Mathematician by training





THE LANCET  
Global Health

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Articles

Evaluating and mitigating the potential indirect effect of COVID-19 on control programmes for seven neglected tropical diseases: a modelling study

Anna Borlase PhD <sup>a,\*</sup>, Epke A Le Rutte PhD <sup>b, c, d,\*</sup>, Soledad Castaño PhD <sup>c, d, e</sup>, David J Blok PhD <sup>b</sup>, Jaspreet Toor PhD <sup>a, f</sup>, Federica Giardina PhD <sup>b, g</sup>, Emma L Davis PhD <sup>a, h</sup>    
NTD Modelling Consortium†

Researcher in infectious  
disease modelling



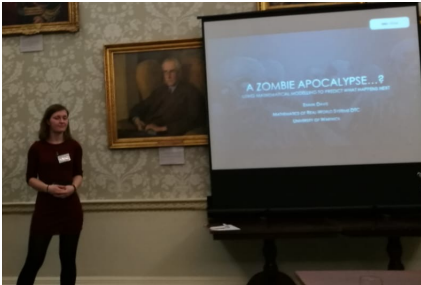
Trail runner



Emma Davis



YouTube Outreach



Lecturer  
(Mathematical Biology)

### MMath

Dissertation: Modelling  
soil-transmitted worms  
*University of Warwick*



### Research Masters

Epidemiology, evolution  
and control of infectious  
diseases  
*Imperial College London*



### MathSys CDT

Taught masters + PhD  
Modelling NTDs  
*University of Warwick*

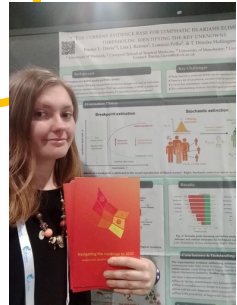


**Emma Davis**



### Postdoc

Neglected Tropical Disease  
Modelling Consortium  
*University of Oxford*



JUNIPER

Postdoc  
COVID-19

*University of Oxford*



### Junior Fellow

*Wolfson College*  
*University of Oxford*



### Lecturer

Mathematical  
modelling of diseases  
*University of Warwick*

## Coursework

Project proposal (unassessed):

- Summary of data, research question and chosen model structure
- Guideline 1-2 pages
- Due: 5pm (UK time) Friday, Week 6

Final project (100% of module):

- Assessed via report (structured: Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusions)
- Strong focus on policy conclusions
- Guideline 5 pages
- Due: 5pm (UK time) Friday, Week 12 (two weeks after the end of the course)

## Reading

Key resources (free access):

- Intro 2 R: <https://intro2r.com>
- Plus Magazine: <https://plus.maths.org/content/>
- R for Graduate Students: [https://bookdown.org/yih\\_huynh/Guide-to-R-Book/](https://bookdown.org/yih_huynh/Guide-to-R-Book/)
- RECON (R Epidemics Consortium) Learn: <https://www.reconlearn.org>
- The Epidemiologist R Handbook: <https://epirhandbook.com/en/>

## Suggested additional reading

Using R

- The Book of R: A First Course in Programming and Statistics by Davies
- R in Action by Kabacoff

A deeper look into the mathematics of infectious disease modelling (advanced)

- Mathematical Tools for Understanding Infectious Disease Dynamics by Diekmann, Heesterbeek and Britton

## Introductions

- Name
- Where you're calling in from
- Background in maths/science
- Why did you sign up for this course?

## How are these seminars going to work?

- 5 mins: Welcome, any questions on that week's Lecture content
- 10 mins: Coding demonstration
- 5 mins: Outline of pair coding task
- 30 mins: Pair coding task in breakout rooms
- 10 mins: Re-group and debrief



## Before we get started

Some R basics:

- R is **case sensitive**, i.e. *A* is not the same as *a*
- Anything following a # symbol is a “comment” and ignored by R
- Separate commands / tasks using a new line
- All brackets must be closed
  - If your code chunk hasn’t been completed correctly then you will see the continuation prompt: +
- Use spaces to make your code readable

## Demonstration

- Script versus console: a tour of R Studio
- Using objects
  - Difference between a function and other objects
- Getting help with functions in R

## Pair coding task

1. Install tidyverse using the command:  
`install.packages("tidyverse")`
2. Create a new R project and R markdown file, load tidyverse in the setup  
`library("tidyverse")`
3. Download `firstwave_London.csv` from Canvas (contains case data for the first two months of the COVID-19 pandemic in London) and save this in your Project folder
4. Use the `read_csv()` function in your markdown file to import the data into R  
Remember to give it a name using the assignment operator: `<-`
5. Explore the data using the key functions covered in the lecture