# Introduction to Data Analytics

Lab Week 1

# Introduction to Tableau

Much the easiest way to use Tableau is to install it on your own machine..

You can sign up for your own personal one year license via the Tableau for Students program ([www.tableau.com/students](http://www.tableau.com/students) or [www.tableau.com/university-students](http://www.tableau.com/university-students) )

Tableau provides a free [Data Analytics for University Students guide](https://www.tableau.com/university-students) which shows how you can use Tableau to create a portfolio that can be shared with others.

Students can continue using Tableau after the class is over by individually requesting their own one-year license through the [Tableau for Students program here](http://tableau.com/students).

Need help? Find answers to frequently asked questions [here](https://community.tableau.com/docs/DOC-10249).

Licences cover

* Tableau Desktop for visualisation
* Tableau Prep for data preparation (combine, shape and clean, etc.)

Tableau is a large and complicated piece of software and, I have to say, not all the tools work in a completely intuitive way.

There are many tutorial resources, including:

* **Tableau help tutorial** [**https://help.tableau.com/current/guides/get-started-tutorial/en-us/get-started-tutorial-home.htm**](https://help.tableau.com/current/guides/get-started-tutorial/en-us/get-started-tutorial-home.htm%20)  **Steps 1-5 give the key basic ideas.**
* Tableau also has free training videos on this site <https://www.tableau.com/learn/training/20204>
* There is quite a lot of material on YouTube. I (and many students) have found Tableau Tim both engaging and helpful. His site is here <https://www.youtube.com/c/TableauTim>
* A more detailed introduction (with how-tos for most main graph types) <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/tableau/tableau_get_started.htm>
* If you prefer learning from videos, this <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fO7g0pnWaRA> is the first of a series.

The UoB Faculty of Engineering Tableau ambassador writes:

“The (public forum) blogs and tutorials on tableau.com itself are a great resource if you're unsure of how to do a specific task or if you want some ideas. There's also the Tableau Desktop Exam. Even without taking the exam, just looking over its prep material is very useful. I found this one the best (assuming you know the very basics): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n72LBkRIumg> . In terms of learning methods you're best off (as with a programming language) learning through practice, either by actively shadowing a tutorial (the workout Wednesday series is great for this: http://www.workout-wednesday.com/latest/). I liked the Olga Tsubiks training challenges too https://www.olgatsubiks.com/tableau-certification-challenge but those are done over several weeks.”

The suggested work for this week is to carry out steps 1-8 of the basic Tableau tutorial (link given above). This is mainly so that you can check the installation has worked properly and to get some very basic familiarity with the tool. We will engage with it at more depth in week 2.