

# About the R labs

In this course you'll learn how to compute commonly used statistics (such as, for instance, mean, standard deviation and Pearson's  $r$ ) manually. In reality, however, you often have to deal with large datasets and computing these statistics manually is an almost impossible task. Luckily, there are computer programs that can perform these computations for us. We believe that learning about statistics is important, but not being able to perform them using statistical software, doesn't make much sense.

One increasingly popular statistics program is R. In this course you'll learn how to use this program. Besides its increasing popularity, the reason that we chose R is that it's available for free. We offer the R labs - the assignments that provide you the opportunity to practice using R - through DataCamp. DataCamp allows you to use R without having to install any software. This way we can make sure that everybody has access to R, without any risk of problems installing the software.

We provide two optional 'getting started' labs that will not count towards your final grade. If you have no experience in R these two labs might not provide enough basic information. You can find great R courses on DataCamp that give a more in depth introduction. If you get stuck with one of the lab assignment exercises go to the Coursera forums and post your problems there. If you find the exercises very easy, please consider visiting the forums to help your fellow learners out! If you're looking for extra resources check out this wonderful post by fellow learner Chris Mosychuk: Resources for learning R

([https://eventing.coursera.org/api/redirectStrict/JlKQn4oVPCefl5lrzsRS1fuGkaNAGnaEC8P2cGMVxaVnun8oNUO6UJnCZmjKX6u1-oUAXWeX6FgfjUkl0U\\_QmA.H1EeDNZNgXD2e9fEK2IDJQ.FdqeEe0cDUrrO3UPry-By4ZDYmCcd5Eygq1ltde2efXvixZBE6klMXtYCNJhstluo4J9\\_1vP6gn2wk6GzcGZ8z6i6P1yEW47x-5hXqUztbUSgeFy-3LWlJkSjKgAC4nAX8qPH1iq9RDINCD4udp9f7JI\\_UWB1x6NxG8h25A1B9ixufntRMjyHhjpMjBYdBkSu5xB4RfiOTQmyv-Sj\\_zjuKiKnzV1uSD5e-IBuG1wUIVnHxaMMF7wHAZA5nJhbiXFXdyqc1DcVpKHRUczPHIbOdWjAl0aZajQJiEBeWHO9603zHar17Ibv-dCLiCIAEV00noOeNDJW9wpPAmohgSDL9-9SjGcx6kkCpaF3GxaQGZ\\_gskm9s77F46x-AI3QGyT7mFvYO4Mfj9htpdgWm\\_ZIH01ccete29cA8sLL7p\\_g](https://eventing.coursera.org/api/redirectStrict/JlKQn4oVPCefl5lrzsRS1fuGkaNAGnaEC8P2cGMVxaVnun8oNUO6UJnCZmjKX6u1-oUAXWeX6FgfjUkl0U_QmA.H1EeDNZNgXD2e9fEK2IDJQ.FdqeEe0cDUrrO3UPry-By4ZDYmCcd5Eygq1ltde2efXvixZBE6klMXtYCNJhstluo4J9_1vP6gn2wk6GzcGZ8z6i6P1yEW47x-5hXqUztbUSgeFy-3LWlJkSjKgAC4nAX8qPH1iq9RDINCD4udp9f7JI_UWB1x6NxG8h25A1B9ixufntRMjyHhjpMjBYdBkSu5xB4RfiOTQmyv-Sj_zjuKiKnzV1uSD5e-IBuG1wUIVnHxaMMF7wHAZA5nJhbiXFXdyqc1DcVpKHRUczPHIbOdWjAl0aZajQJiEBeWHO9603zHar17Ibv-dCLiCIAEV00noOeNDJW9wpPAmohgSDL9-9SjGcx6kkCpaF3GxaQGZ_gskm9s77F46x-AI3QGyT7mFvYO4Mfj9htpdgWm_ZIH01ccete29cA8sLL7p_g)) (thanks Chris!).

In the first week of the course you might experience an overload of new information because you have to process three R labs (two optional and one required). But once you have survived the first week things will become easier, and we believe that eventually you will like the labs a lot!

