Course name: R Workshop

Date: 23 January 2026

Time: 12:45–17:30

Location: MZ 21

Instructor: Tunga Kantarcı

Contact: t.kantarci@rug.nl

Study program: MSc. Economics

Enrollment: Enrollment to 310153-M-3 implies enrollment to the workshop. No other registration is required. The workshop material will be made available on the Canvas page of 310153-M-3.

Target group: Anyone in the mentioned study program who has no knowledge of R, or want to refresh current knowledge of R.

Attendance policy: Participation is voluntary and does not award ECTS credits.

Participation: The workshop will take place in person in a lab where computers have R installed on them. You will be provided with R program files, a data file, and a PDF file walking you through every step of the workshop. The instructor will address questions both personally and collectively. You are also offered to make an appointment to meet the instructor in person or on Zoom after the workshop to ask questions if you did not have an opportunity to ask during the workshop. Use the e-mail address in this syllabus to make an appointment. Instead of the computers in the lab, you can bring along and use your laptop. For this, you need R installed on your computer. In particular you need R Studio to be installed on your computer. You can download it free https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/. In this case, make sure that R is running on your computer before the workshop takes place.

Content: The workshop will introduce R. Participants will learn about interacting with R, the program syntax, working with matrices, importing raw data files, browsing the data, producing descriptive statistics, creating and manipulating variables, creating graphs, working with built-in R functions and building custom functions, carrying out regression analysis using matrix algebra and using an optimization algorithm, writing loops, optimizing a utility function subject to a budget constraint, code debugging, and using the help system of R. Third-party packages such as the `tidyverse` will also be introduced.

Material: Participants will be provided with R script and function files that contain R syntax which will be executed during the workshop, a data file, and a PDF file that will walk you through the steps to be taken during the workshop. The workshop material will be uploaded to the Canvas page of the workshop, and in particular to the "Files" folder prior to the workshop.