

Indian Institute of Technology Ropar  
Department of Mathematics  
1st Semester (AY: 2025-2026)

**MA515: Foundations of Data Science**

**(4 Credits: 3-0-2-7-4)**

**Details of Course Coordinator:**

**Name:** Dr. Arun Kumar

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**Details of Teaching Assistants:**

Ms. Priti

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**Class Timings:**

**Lectures:** 2:00 - 2:50 PM (Wed, Thu, Fri at Auditorium)

**Lab:** 6 to 8 PM every Tuesday

**Objectives of the course:** Develop good understanding of the key concepts in data science. Gain hands-on experience with Python to apply the concepts to data. Understand the mathematical foundations of the key techniques in data science.

**Textbooks:**

1. Gareth James, Daniela Witten, Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani, An Introduction to Statistical Learning with Applications in R, Springer-Verlag New York, 2013.
2. Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani and Jerome Friedman. Elements of Statistical Learning, Second Edition, Springer-Verlag, 2009

**Reference Book:**

1. Cathy O'Neil and Rachel Schutt. Doing Data Science, Straight Talk From the Frontline. O'Reilly, 2014
2. Charu Agarwal, Data Classification Algorithms and Applications, CRC Press, 2015

**Course Content:**

Overview of probability and statistics; statistical learning: definition, principles and different types of statistical learning, assessing model accuracy, bias-variance tradeoff; regression models: simple linear and multiple linear and non-linear; resampling methods: assessing model prediction quality, cross validation, bootstrap; model selection and regularization: dimensionality reduction, ridge and lasso; unsupervised learning: clustering approaches, K-means and hierarchical clustering; supervised learning: classification problem, classification using logistic regression, naive Bayes, classification with Support Vector Machines, neural networks

**Marks Distributions:**

The following marks distribution scheme will be followed:

<b>Task</b>	<b>% Marks</b>
Quiz/s	10%
Mid Term	30%
End Term	40%
Project	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Scheme:**

Institute rules will be followed for assigning the final grade for this course. The minimum pass marks for this course will be 30%.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is mandatory. Institute rules will be followed.