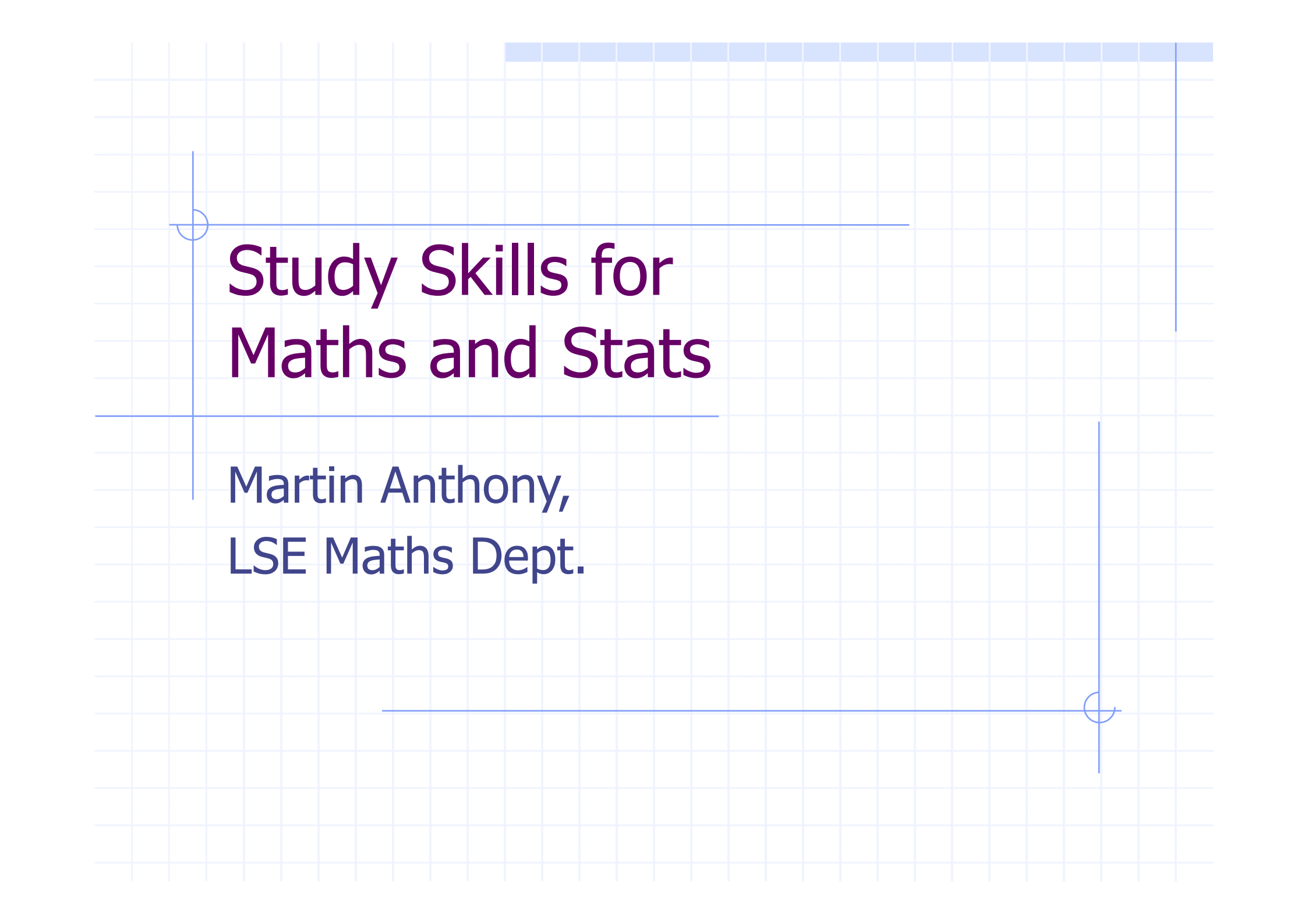


Study Skills for Maths and Stats

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Study time

24 hours in a day

168 hours in a week

**Around 25,000 hours from
registration to BSc.....**

...take away...

◆ Sleep	7,644hrs
◆ Eating/household	3,276hrs
◆ Travel	2,184hrs
◆ Having “a life”...	5,000hrs
◆ Lectures/classes	720hrs

**....leaves you with about 25hrs/
week “study time” to sort for
yourselves.**

Student quote:

“two-thirds of my way through my first year, I realised how much time I’d wasted”

Planning a year-round program

- ◆ Don't hope to cram
- ◆ Do a little work, often
- ◆ Keep up with lectures
- ◆ Revise often, not just for exams

Managing a study session

- ◆ Set goals: give rewards
- ◆ Don't waste time: get stuck in
- ◆ Work for short blocks; review and rest
- ◆ Maybe use a checklist

ACTIVE LEARNING

- ◆ Becoming an active learner
- ◆ Active learning in a study session
- ◆ Actively using textbooks and hand-outs

Active learners

- ◆ Pro-active, interrogative
- ◆ Take responsibility and control
- ◆ Keep at it until you understand

Active learning in a study session

- ◆ Don't slip into auto-pilot
- ◆ Take initiative with reading
 - read more deeply than you need
 - read different texts
 - but be realistic
- ◆ Make notes: on paper and on books and hand-outs.

Textbooks and hand-outs

- ◆ Maths and Stats needs active reading
 - work through calculations
 - ask questions
 - work problems (before checking solutions)
- ◆ Skim hand-outs/texts in advance?

FORMAL TEACHING

- ◆ Lectures

- ◆ Classes

Lectures

◆ Different styles

- largely spoken/written
- text/notes-based

◆ Rate of information/concept delivery

high: spend time afterwards

PROBLEM SOLVING

- ◆ Types of problem

- ◆ How to approach problems


Types of problem

- ◆ Routine drill problems
- ◆ Modelling or applications problems
- ◆ Proof problems

Approach to problems

◆ Polya scheme

- 1. Understand the problem
- 2. Devise a plan (cunning or otherwise)
- 3. Implement the plan
- 4. Look back/check

- 
- ◆ Don't underrate 1.
 - ◆ OK to try, fail, try again
 - ◆ Different ways of checking
 - ◆ It'll get easier with practice

Help from teachers

- ◆ That's what we're for

- ◆ Use classes and office hours

- But be specific and realistic

Help from your friends

- ◆ Friends are a great support

- ◆ Work things out between you

- but in the end, you're on your own, which brings us to...

EXAMS!

- ◆ Exam revision

- ◆ Exam technique

Exam revision

- ◆ Have a rough timetable
- ◆ Use vacations (Christmas and Easter)
- ◆ Summarise lecture notes
- ◆ Talk to people; ask questions
- ◆ Try to understand, not memorise

Exam technique

- ◆ Don't panic
- ◆ Read rubric
- ◆ Skim paper: size it up
- ◆ Answer questions in order you want
- ◆ Don't get bogged down
- ◆ There are marks for method
- ◆ Don't panic: take control