

BSPS 2016 –training sessions:

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TRAINING SESSIONS MUST BE PRE-BOOKED ON THE CONFERENCE BOOKING FORM. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis as attendance is restricted to 30 per training session. Please check the provisional timetable to ensure there are no parallel sessions that you wish to attend or in which you are presenting. It is assumed that if you are allocated a place in a training session, you will attend. Please do not deprive someone else of a place by not attending. Places will be confirmed about 2 weeks in advance of Conference & waiting lists will apply if necessary.

PLEASE NOTE YOU WILL NEED TO BRING A LAPTOP TO PARTICIPATE IN A TRAINING SESSION.

1. A new demographic model for city planning - WITAN – Monday 12 September 4.45 to 6.15pm (1.5 hours) – computer lab.

BSPS regrets this session has been cancelled.

2. Using QGIS and CartoDB for population research - Visualising and analysing spatial population data using QGIS. Tuesday 13 September 1:30 to 3:00pm (1.5 hrs) – Fred Wheeler Building, room to be advised

Suitable for beginners

Nik Lomax

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This workshop will cover the visualisation and analysis of population data which has a spatial dimension. It utilises two free and open source platforms, QGIS and CartoDB. QGIS is a GIS program which is freely available for download and CartoDB is a platform which provides tools for displaying spatial data online.

The workshop will demonstrate how both can be used together to synthesise offline and online mapping. It will also cover the basics of creating static maps and maps suitable for display on the web. It will explore some more advanced spatial analytical techniques and ways of displaying/interpreting this information. The workshop is suitable for beginners and more advanced users of GIS. Prior to the workshop, users will be asked to download QGIS and create a CartoDB account.

3. Visualisation of time-series data in QGIS . Tuesday 13 September 4:45 to 6:15 (1.5hrs) – Fred Wheeler Building – room to be advised

Basis knowledge of GIS required

Andy Harfoot

GeoData Institute , University of Southampton

Overview: A walk through of the preparation and visualisation (as an animation) of data that have a temporal component using the QGIS Time Manager plugin.

Learning outcomes:

Overview and awareness of core QGIS functionality (Data loading, Symbology, Selections, Field Calculations, Plugins, Handling Date / time data types)

Detailed steps:

Load QGIS

- Load pre built project file referencing contextual datasets
- Add and explore data with temporal component
- Standardise date time format
- Install and load TimeManager plugin
- Enable time slider
- Enhance temporal visualisation
- Export to video

Notes :All the software and data used will be publicly available, so can be run from individual's laptops, or computer lab PCs. Assume the latest version of QGIS will be used (2.16 by September).

Not entirely sure of the data to use at the moment. One option would be time specific population distribution model outputs (from Pop24/7 project). Heat maps of reported crime over time would be another.

4. Research transparency and reproducibility in social Science Research

Berkeley Initiative on Transparency in Social Sciences - (BITSS, University of California at Berkeley).

Wednesday 14 September 9.00 – 11.00am (2 hours) – session room

Soazic Elise Wang Sonne

UNU-MERIT

CONTEXT AND MOTIVATION:

With the many replication controversies that happened over the last decade on social sciences, as well as research misconduct; (See e.g, McCullough et al., Chang et al.); there has been a growing interest toward finding mechanisms as well creating institutions to strengthen integrity in social science research. For this aim, BITSS was established in 2012 to enhance the quality of social science research and evidence used for policy-making by i)raising awareness, ii)identifying strategies and fostering adoption of transparency methods.

PURPOSE:

The aim of this workshop is to train the next generation of young/ Early Career statisticians and demographers to tools and practices to enhance the transparency ,reproducibility and openness of their research.

It intends to cover the following aspects: i) Conceptual and emerging issues in the practice and ethics of research; ii) Overview of issues that make research unreliable; iii) Theory and Implementation of Pre-analysis Plans; iv) Transparent data management, data sharing & statistical analysis.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

1) First Part (Exact time to be specified): duration: 20min

Emerging Issues in the Practice of Empirical Social Science:

- What is a reliable, a transparent or a reproducible research? : conceptual issues in the practice and ethics of research.
- Research misconduct: recent case studies presentation.

2) Second Part (Exact time to be specified): duration: 20 min

Overview of issues that make research unreliable:

- False-positives and P-hacking
- Publication Bias (The files drawer problem)

3) Third Part (Exact time to be specified)duration: 25 min

Pre-analysis Plans

- Walk-through of Pre-Analysis Plan checklist
- Examples of Pre-analysis plan written under two development programs in Sierra Leone (CDD project by Casey et al.) and in Kenya (WASH project by Garrett et al.)

4) Fourth Part (Exact time to be specified): duration: 55 min

Transparent data management, statistical analysis, data sharing & data registration: presentation of the TIER (Teaching Integrity in Empirical Research) protocol Workflow:

- Overview of concrete principles such as file structure, consistent variable labeling, code commenting, readme files, and codebooks.
- Hands-on practical exercises with data and code management using the TIER 2.0 protocol model and Scott Long Stata Book .
- Presentation of Open Science Framework, Github and dataverse for collaborative workflow management and Stata Markdoc or R Markdown for creating dynamic documents with Stata
- Overview of current issues and initiatives in research transparency (BITSS Manual of Best practices, Haverford-TIER Protocol)

5. An introduction to using the UK Longitudinal Studies. Wednesday 14 September 11.30am – 1.00pm (1.5 hours) – Fred Wheeler Building, room to be advised.

Trainers: CeLSIUS Team, University College London

This training session is designed to introduce people unfamiliar with the analysis of longitudinal data and the unique social science that can be undertaken with microdata that tracks individuals over time, to the kinds of analyses that can be carried out.

The session will provide a general introduction to the UK national LSs,

This brief talk will be followed by an opportunity for delegates to have a hands-on session to:

- explore which variables are held by each LS in the data dictionary and use test data;
- have help completing an application to use LS data;
- meet with Support Unit staff and discuss the development of new research projects.

No previous experience of microdata or statistical analysis techniques is required

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