

MA124-10 Mathematics by Computer

22/23

Department

Warwick Mathematics Institute

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Richard Lissaman

Credit value

10

Module duration

30 weeks

Assessment

Multiple

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The module provides an overview of using the computer as a tool to provide intuition, guide and test hypotheses, enhance understanding and make predictions on mathematical questions. It particularly aims at learning how to use computer-based mathematical tools (chiefly Python) through individual and group work.

Module aims

The first aim is to learn Python. The second aim is to get experience work in a group on computer based mathematical project.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

- Term 1 Python mini-course (input/output, loops, arrays, plots, collaborative tools (github))
- Term 2 Python mini-course (algebra and differential equations)
- Term 2 group project and presentation

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- learn how to graph functions, study vectors and matrices graphically and numerically
- solve algebraic and differential equations numerically and study statistical properties of sets of numbers
- learn foundations of programming in Python
- learn how to manage a group project, including collaborative tools such as Github
- develop research skills and practice presentation skills

Indicative reading list

The reading list is going to change due to the switch from Matlab to Python

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

At the end of the module, students will be able to use software (currently Python but it may change in future, depending on the industry trends) to create simple programs and perform interactive analysis. They will understand rudimentary computer programming control structures and graph functions. They will use the computer to study matrices and differential equations graphically and numerically. They will employ iteration, recursion and computer generated random numbers to study sequences and series.

Transferable skills

The module will teach students basic computer skills and their relationship with mathematics. It will encourage them to use the computer as an exploratory tool research and equip them with foundational programming knowledge. They will also learn to work in a group and how to use the collaborative tool (currently Github or Dropbox but it may change in future).

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Tutorials	8 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Project supervision	8 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Online learning (scheduled sessions)	10 sessions of 30 minutes (5%)
Online learning (independent)	4 sessions of 8 hours (32%)
Total	100 hours

Type	Required
Private study	12 hours (12%)
Assessment	35 hours (35%)
Total	100 hours

Private study description

Independent work on the group project with some guidance.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Python Mini-Course 1 Assessment	25%	10 hours	No
Assesment of Python Moodle-based mini-course			
Python Mini-Course 2 Assessment	25%	10 hours	No
Assesment of Python Moodle-based mini-course			
Group Project	50%	15 hours	No
Assessment contains three subcomponents: presentation (10%), group report (30%) and individual report (10%)			

Assessment group R

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Python Mini-Course 1 Assessment	30%		No
Python Mini-Course 2 Assessment	30%		No
Reassessment of Group Project	40%		No
Instead of a group project the students will need to submit individual assignment related to the			

both Python mini-courses..

Feedback on assessment

Formative feedback available from the personal tutor throughout year. Assessment of earlier components is available during the year.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UMAA-G105 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UMAA-G100 Undergraduate Mathematics (BSc)
- UMAA-G103 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 1 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 1 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- Year 1 of UMAA-G106 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
- Year 1 of UMAA-G1NC Undergraduate Mathematics and Business Studies
- Year 1 of UMAA-G1N2 Undergraduate Mathematics and Business Studies (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UMAA-GL11 Undergraduate Mathematics and Economics
- Year 1 of UECA-GL12 Undergraduate Mathematics and Economics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 1 of UMAA-G101 Undergraduate Mathematics with Intercalated Year

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 1 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy