Foundations of Data Analysis
Email Archive

Congratulations to all our students who earned certificates!
Unfortunately edX is experiencing technical issues with their grading server. Because of this, they are unable to issue certificates today, Friday, February 13, as originally scheduled. Certificates will now be issued next week. At this time, we cannot confirm an exact date. We will keep you updated as we learn more.

Once again, thank you for your participation in Foundations of Data Analysis. If you haven't done so already, please evaluate the course by completing this anonymous survey.

Foundations of Data Analysis officially ends at **midnight on Tuesday, February 10 CST** (6:00 UTC on Wednesday, February 11). Creating and presenting this course to over 34,000 registered students was a tremendous learning experience for us. We are grateful to everyone who posted on Piazza and attended Office Hours. We couldn't have achieved this without you.

Certificates

Today is the last day to submit work towards a certificate. Remember that you need a grade of 70% or higher to pass the course. If gaining a certificate is something you've been working towards, please turn in all work by midnight on Tuesday, February 10 CST (6:00 UTC on Wednesday, February 11).

Certificates will be issued on Friday, February 13.

Course Closing & Discussion Board

Although today is the last official day of the MOOC, course materials will remain available to all registered students. If you didn't get a chance to finish a lab or want to watch just a few more R Tutorial videos, you can return to them at your leisure.

The Piazza discussion board will close today along with the MOOC. While you will still be able to review posts, no one will be able to submit new posts or comment on any material.

Survey

We want to thank everyone who has posted such encouraging comments and suggestions about the course either on the discussion board or through a social media forum. Your kind words meant so much to us as we were putting the finishing touches on the last few weeks of the course. And we will take all suggestions on course improvement seriously when planning for any future re-runs.

If you would like to evaluate the course in a formalized way that will allow our team to assess students' experiences with the course and make improvements, please complete this anonymous survey.

Farewell

Once again, thank you for your participation. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors, and we hope that you'll be able to take some of what you've learned with us and apply it to your everyday lives.

SUBJECT: **WEEK ELEVEN OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **FEB 09, 2015**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Week Eleven Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:

1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.

3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **NEARING THE END**
SENT: **FEB 04, 2015**

Week 11 is underway, and the course is nearing its close.

It's hard to believe that Week 11 was released yesterday and that we're nearing the end of the course. We want to thank our students who have made this a great experience, and we hope that you have learned as much from us as we have from you.

Closing the Gradebook

Our course will officially end on **Tuesday, February 10**. This means that the course will go into "archive mode" and the gradebook will close. However there's still plenty of time to pass the course with a grade of 70% or higher before Tuesday. And remember to join us for our final Office Hour with Dr. Mahometa on Monday, February 9 at 10:30 AM (CST). We hope to see you there!

SUBJECT: **WEEK ELEVEN STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **FEB 03, 2015**

Our final week releases today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**.
Week Eleven: Hypothesis Testing (More Than Two Group Means) focuses on One-way and Two-way ANOVAs.

SUBJECT: **WEEK TEN OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **FEB 02, 2015**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Week Ten Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:

1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.
3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **WEEK TEN STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **JAN 27, 2015**

Week Ten: Hypothesis Testing (Categorical Data) releases today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on the chi-square test, the Goodness-of-Fit, and the Test-of-Independence.

SUBJECT: **WEEK NINE OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **JAN 26, 2015**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Week Nine Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:

1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.
3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **WEEK NINE STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **JAN 20, 2015**

Content for **Week Nine: Hypothesis Testing (Two Group Means)** releases today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on Independent and Dependent t-tests.

SUBJECT: **WEEK EIGHT OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **JAN 20, 2015**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Week Eight Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:

1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.
3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **IMPORTANT REMINDER**
SENT: **JAN 19, 2015**

We want to remind you that Office Hours for this week will be held at **10:30 AM CST** on Tuesday, **January 20**. See you online!

SUBJECT: **WEEK EIGHT STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **JAN 13, 2015**

Content for **Week Eight: Hypothesis Testing (One Group Means)** releases today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on what makes a hypothesis test, errors in testing, alpha and critical values, and single sample test.

SUBJECT: WEEK SEVEN OFFICE HOURS – CANCELLED
SENT: JAN 12, 2015

Unfortunately Office Hours for this week are cancelled due to illness. Thank you for your understanding.

SUBJECT: WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR!
SENT: JAN 05, 2015

Welcome to a new year! The course staff is back in the office and will begin reviewing the Piazza discussion board soon. We'd also like to remind you that, because of The University of Texas at Austin's extended winter break, the release of content for Week 8 has been delayed. Content for Week 8 will now be released at **12:00 CST (18:00 UTC)** on **Tuesday, January 13, 2015**.

Additionally Office Hours for Week 7 will be held **at 10:30 CST (16:30 UTC)** on **Monday, January 12, 2015**.

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO WEEK 8
SENT: DEC 19, 2014

Happy Holidays! The University of Texas at Austin will be closed from Monday, December 22, 2014 through Friday, January 2, 2015 for winter break. Course staff will not be active on the discussion board until we return on **Monday, January 5, 2015**. Additionally no new content will be released during this time.

Please continue to be respectful and patient with each other and with course staff on Piazza. <u>We will not be answering questions or addressing any technical errors during until our return on Monday, January 5.</u>

Changes to Week 8

Because of our extended absence, we have decided to delay the release of Week 8. Content for Week 8 will now be released at **12:00 CST (18:00 UTC)** on **Tuesday, January 13, 2015**. This change will affect the end date of the course as well as all due dates for the course.

The course will now conclude on **Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 12:00 CST (18:00 UTC)**, which is one week after the release of Week 11 - our final week. All due dates have been altered to reflect the new end date of the course (Tuesday, February 10, 2015). This means that in order to receive a final grade and a Verified Certificate or Honor Certificate, all graded assessments need to be submitted by this time.

We'll see you all online in the new year!

SUBJECT: **WEEK SEVEN STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 17, 2014**

Content for **Week Seven: Sampling** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on sampling distribution, the Central Limit Theorem, and Confidence Intervals.

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 15, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Week Six Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:
1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.
3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast

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SUBJECT: **WEEK SIX STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 9, 2014**

Content for **Week Six: Exponential and Logistic Function Models** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This

week's content focuses on exponential data, logs, the logistic function model, and picking a good model.

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 8, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:
4. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
5. Follow this link if using YouTube.
6. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast

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SUBJECT: **WEEK FIVE STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 2, 2014**

Content for **Week Five: Linear Functions** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on functions, least squares, and the Linear function (regression).

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **DEC 1, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:
7. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
8. Follow this link if using YouTube.
9. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.

To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **VERIFIED CERTIFICATE ENROLLMENT DEADLINE**
SENT: **NOV 26, 2014**

We are happy to announce that the enrollment deadline for a Verified Certificate has been extended to **Tuesday, December 16**. We hope this will give students enough time to get accustomed to the pace of the course in order to decide if a Verified Certificate is the right path for them.

Happy Thanksgiving to those students in the United States! Because of the holiday, our offices at UT Austin will be closed tomorrow (Thursday, November 27) and Friday, November 28. Course staff will not be active on the discussion board until we return next week on **Monday, December 1**.

SUBJECT: **WEEK FOUR STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 25, 2014**

Content for **Week Four: Bivariate Distributions (Categorical Data)** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on contingency tables, conditional probability, and examining independence.

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 24, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:
1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
2. Follow this link if using YouTube.

3. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **WEEK THREE STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 18, 2014**

Content for **Week Three: Bivariate Distributions** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on scatterplots and correlation.

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 17, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM CST for Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:
4. Follow this link if using Google Plus.
5. Follow this link if using YouTube.
6. Post questions in the Q & A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.
   To access the Q & A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q & A" application.

The Office Hours broadcast will be available to view on YouTube after the broadcast.

SUBJECT: **WEEK TWO STARTS SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 11, 2014**

Content for **Week Two: Univariate Descriptive Statistics** will release today at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**. This week's content focuses on

graphs and distribution shapes, measures of center and spread, the Normal distribution, and z-scores.

New content for Week Two of our course will launch tomorrow at **12:00 PM CST** (18:00 UTC). Remember that there are no formal due dates for course assignments, so it's OK if you haven't finished all of the work for Week One. However, to receive the maximum benefit from the course, we suggest that you complete each chapter's coursework prior to beginning the next week's work. Additionally you must submit all coursework by 12:00 CST (18:00 UTC) on Tuesday, February 3.

Office Hours

Thanks to everyone who participated in our first Office Hours broadcast! In case you weren't able to watch it live, we have posted the links to the recorded version on the new "Office Hours" page within the course. In the future, all links to recorded office hours broadcasts will be uploaded to this page.

You can also access the recording by following this link for the YouTube version and this link for the Google+ version. You will only be able to see the Q&A section when viewing in Google+. To access the Q&A section, click on the "Apps" icon at the top of the screen. (It looks like nine white squares within one larger square.) Then choose the "Q&A" application.

Email Archive

We also wanted to direct you to the "Course Info" page within the course where we have created an "Email Archive" in the left-hand sidebar. We will keep this document current with all of our email communications so that everyone can easily see what's going on.

Errors in RStudio Quizzes #1 and #3 (Hey, we all make mistakes!)

We want to thank everyone who drew our attention to the mistakes in the RStudio Quizzes #1 and #3. We accidently coded the answers for questions #4 – 6 (see below) in RStudio Quiz #3 incorrectly when preparing the course. We have now corrected the answer key, so all future answers will be graded correctly. **We have re-scored all student answers submitted**

prior to our fixing the answer key on Wednesday, November 5. All grades should now be correct.

A few students expressed confusion over the final question in the RStudio Quiz #1. We agree that this question is unclear as it did not make its connection to the earlier question explicit, and we apologize for that. We will not penalize students who answered the question incorrectly because they were uncertain what the question was asking. Just as before, **we have re-scored all student answers submitted and gave full credit for both of the potential answers.**

Please accept our apologies for the confusion over these questions.

Question References:

RStudio Quiz #1, Final Question
What value would R return for sqrt(x^2)?

RStudio Quiz #3, Question #4
If we index BikeData with the following line of code, what value will result? BikeData[8,7]

RStudio Quiz #3, Question #5
If we modify the above code as follows and run the code, what will result? BikeData[,7]

RStudio Quiz #3, Question #6
You would like to create a new data frame from BikeData which contains only employed cyclists. What should your code look like?

Remember to keep posting your questions to the Piazza Discussion Board! We're very encouraged by all of the introductions and student lead answers we've been seeing.

SUBJECT: **OFFICE HOURS ARE STARTING SOON!**
SENT: **NOV 10, 2014**

Please join us at 10:30 AM (CST) for Office Hours with Dr. Mahometa!

To participate:

1. Follow this link if using Google Plus.

2. Follow this link if using YouTube.
3. Post questions in the Q&A section of the Google Hangouts broadcast.

SUBJECT: WELCOME!
SENT: NOV 04, 2014

Welcome to Foundations of Data Analysis! The course will go live today at **12:00 CST** (18:00 UTC). Until that time, students will not be able to access the Courseware or Piazza Discussion Board. Once live, please post all questions and discussion topics to the Piazza Discussion Board. You will be able to access links to the Board once the course is live under the Courseware and Course Info tabs.

Once Week One course content is available after 12:00 CST, just log in to your edX account to access the Courseware.

SUBJECT: FOUNDATIONS OF DATA ANALYSIS BEGINS TOMORROW!
SENT: NOV 03, 2014

This is a reminder that the Foundations of Data Analysis course will launch tomorrow at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)**! As soon as the course goes live, we encourage you to look through the course materials to make yourself familiar with the structure of the course and to get acquainted with the R and RStudio software that we will be using. For new registrants, please review the below outline of the course structure to get an idea of what to expect.

Course Structure

Courseware

This tab contains all of the instructional materials including reading assignments, lecture videos, and assessments. When you come back to the site, you will be taken to the place you left off on the Courseware tab. Use the vertical navigation bar to move among sections and from week to week. Use the horizontal navigation bar to move among content components within a unit.

If this is your first time participating in a course through edX, consider taking DemoX, an edX demo course, first.

Course Info

This tab will contain course updates as well as links for Dr. Mahometa's weekly, open office hours on Google Hangouts on Air.

Discussion

We will close this embedded discussion board within the courseware and post a direct link to our Piazza discussion board. We will also post a direct link to the Piazza board under the Courseware and Course Info tabs.

Syllabus

The Syllabus tab contains information about the class including our course schedule, office hour schedule, grading policy, and overview of the course.

Download R and RStudio

Follow the instructions found under this tab to install R and RStudio.

R is a widely available statistical software packaged called R during this course. RStudio is the free, integrated development environment for R. Learn more about R [here](.).

R Tutorials

We will upload all current R Tutorial videos to this tab for easy access.

Readings

We will upload all current reading assignments (including the optional reading assignments) to this tab.

Progress

Under this tab, you can monitor your progress and running grade on assessments.

We'll see you online tomorrow at 12:00 CST (18:00 UTC).

SUBJECT: **SEE YOU ONLINE IN ONE WEEK!**
SENT: **OCT 29, 2014**

Welcome to Foundations of Data Analysis! This is a reminder that our MOOC starts next week. So far 16,700 students from around the world have

enrolled. We are excited about the level of interest and are eager to launch the first week's material.

The first week of the course content will be available beginning at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)** on **Tuesday, November 4**. In addition to the lecture materials, the first week will include information on navigating the course. On each subsequent Tuesday at 12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC) for the remaining 10 weeks of the course, one new section will go live and include new content in the form of video segments, reading assignments, and assessments.

As soon as the course goes live, we encourage you to look through the course materials to make yourself familiar with the structure of the course and to get acquainted with the R and RStudio software that we will be using.

Course Structure

Courseware

This tab contains all of the instructional materials including reading assignments, lecture videos, and assessments. When you come back to the site, you will be taken to the place you left off on the Courseware tab. Use the vertical navigation bar to move among sections and from week to week. Use the horizontal navigation bar to move among content components within a unit.

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We will close this embedded discussion board that is found under this tab and post a direct link to our Piazza discussion board. We will also post a direct link to the Piazza board under the Courseware and Course Info tabs.

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The Syllabus tab contains information about the class including our content launch schedule, office hour schedule, grading policy, and overview of the course.

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Readings

We will upload all current reading assignments (including the optional reading assignments) to this tab. The readings (including optional readings) will also be posted under the "Courseware" tab.

Progress

Under this tab, you can monitor your progress and running grade on assessments.

Welcome to Foundations of Data Analysis. Our MOOC starts in two weeks, and we're excited to share a few pieces of important information with you.

1. The Discussion Board

   We will be using Piazza for class discussion. The system is highly catered to getting you help fast and efficiently from classmates. We encourage you to ask questions when you're struggling to understand a concept - you can even do so anonymously. The quicker you begin asking questions on Piazza, the sooner you'll benefit from the collective knowledge of your classmates.

   The Discussion Board is designed to be self-sustaining and require little, if any, input from Dr. Mahometa and the Foundations of Data Analysis team. Please answer each other's questions and discuss course concepts with each other. Though a team member will review posts to validate good answers and to sort out any technical problems students may

experience, please rely on each other for assistance in answering content related questions.

2. Office Hours

Dr. Mahometa will host weekly, open office hours using Google Hangouts on Air on **Mondays** from **10:30 AM - 11:30 AM CST (16:30 - 17:30 UTC)**. Once the broadcast goes live, we will provide a link for it on the Course Info page for our class as well as through email.

You can follow the link to join into the discussion and post your questions by signing into your Google Plus account and typing questions directly into the Q&A box.

Our first office hours will be held on **Monday, November 10**.

The first week of the course content will be available beginning at **12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC)** on **Tuesday, November 4**. In addition to the lecture materials, the first week will include information on navigating the course. On each subsequent Tuesday at 12:00 PM CST (18:00 UTC) for the remaining 10 weeks of the course, one new section will go live and include new content in the form of video segments, reading assignments, and assessments.

If this is your first time participating in a course through edX, consider taking DemoX, an edX demo course, first.

SUBJECT: **ONLY A MONTH TO GO!**
SENT: **SEP 30, 2014**

Dr. Michael J. Mahometa and the Foundations of Data Analysis team welcome you to this new and exciting MOOC course. If you are a new registrant, you can take the course, which starts November 4, 2014 and runs through February 6, 2015, free of charge under the honor code or pay a small fee for a Verified Certificate.

We are striving to make this an engaging and thought provoking course full of real world examples and opportunities to see statistics in action. Please check out our Facebook page and follow us on twitter @UTxStats. We hope to engage with you often.

SUBJECT: WELCOME TO FOUNDATIONS OF DATA ANALYSIS!
SENT: SEP 02, 2014

WELCOME TO FOUNDATIONS OF DATA ANALYSIS!

Dr. Michael J. Mahometa and the Foundations of Data Analysis team welcome you to this new and exciting MOOC course. Throughout this course, you will learn fundamental statistical topics and interact with a hands-on data lab using a widely available statistical software package (R and RStudio). We will discuss how you can download and access R in a future email.

You can take the course, which starts November 4, 2014 and runs through February 6, 2015, free of charge under the honor code or pay a small fee for a Verified Certificate.

In the months preceding course launch on November 4, we will be sending out behind the scenes course production updates and links to current events in the world of statistics. So stay tuned!