

**Module:**

Mod.I – Quantitative methods

**Name of course:**

Statistics

**Course Instructor:**

Isabella Corazziari

**Course description:**

The course provides the basics for descriptive statistics, probability calculus and statistical inference, highlighting the potential applications in political, economic and social sciences.

**Topics**

- Univariate descriptive statistics:  
types of data; graphical representations; means, variability
- Bivariate descriptive statistics:  
correlation
- Probability:  
elementary probability rules; random variables; common families of distributions, sampling distributions
- Statistical inference:  
point estimation; statistical tests about hypothesis

**Duration:**

27 hours (Theory: 21 hours; Practical sessions: 6 hours)

**Exam:**

The final exam consists of two parts: a written test (80%) and a take-home assignment (20%) to be returned via email. The written exam consists of theoretical questions and exercises to be answered in 60 minutes. It is a closed book exam. Students are not allowed to consult any materials or other sources of information (including notebooks, laptops, dictionaries, mobile phones) during the exam.

**Recommended readings:**

Alan Agresti, Christine Franklin  
Statistics: The Art and Science of Learning From Data  
Pearson; 3th International Edition  
ISBN 9781447964186

**Links:**

<http://www.amstat.org/asa/what-is-statistics.aspx>