# COURSE DESCRIPTION – ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/2019

**Course title**: Advanced Statistics for Data Mining  
**Course code**: 76001  
**Scientific sector**: MAT/06  
**Degree**: European Master in Software Engineering (LM-18)  
**Semester**: Annual course  
**Year**: 1  
**Credits**: 12  
**Modular**: Yes  
**University**: UniBZ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total lecturing hours</th>
<th>72</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total lab hours</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total exercise hours</td>
<td>12</td>
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**Attendance**: Not compulsory. Non-attending students should contact the lecturer at the start of the course to agree on the modalities of the independent study.

**Prerequisites**: Students should have a good knowledge of probability and algorithms and suitable programming skills for projects and Basics of calculus.

**Course page**: [https://ole.unibz.it/](https://ole.unibz.it/)

**Specific educational objectives**: The course belongs to the type "affine" and is part of the Transversal Skills offered from unibz (EMSE-TS).

It is designed to give a general overview of scientific contents about Data Mining.

This course aims at developing a deep understanding of the strengths and the limitations of a wide range of data mining techniques to be able to identify their use cases and important applications. Given a data-mining problem, students will be able to define what are the data sources to be exploited, the mining tasks to be performed, and the algorithms that need to be used to solve the problem. To this end, students will have the possibility to actively participate in data mining projects to perform extensive experiments on real datasets and potentially propose extensions to existing algorithms. A useful takeaway from the course will be the ability to identify the knowledge to be mined from data and employ mining algorithms using easy-to-use software and cases.

## Module 1  
**Module code**: 76001B  
**Module scientific sector**: MAT/06  
**Lecturer**: Gianni Arioli  
**Contact**: Piazza Domenicani 3, Room 1.04, gianni.arioli@unibz.it

| Lecturing assistant (if any ) | Leonardo Ricci  
|------------------------------|-----------------  
| Contact LA                   | Office 1.04, leonardo.ricci@unibz.it  
| Office hours LA              | Arrange beforehand by email  

**Teaching language**: English  
**Office hours**: During the lecture time span  

**Scientific sector of lecturer**: MAT/05
## Credits
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<td>Lecturing hours</td>
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<td>Lab hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise hours</td>
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## List of topics
- Discrete random variables and their distributions
- Statistical Inference
- Correlation and regression
- Time series analysis
- Dynamic systems and Markov chains

## Teaching format
Frontal lectures and exercises with R

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## Module 2  
**Data Mining – second semester**

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<tr>
<td>Module scientific sector</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Mouna Kacimi El Hassani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Piazza Domenicani 3, Room 2.08, <a href="mailto:Mouna.Kacimi@unibz.it">Mouna.Kacimi@unibz.it</a>, +39 0471 016114</td>
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<td>Teaching language</td>
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<td>Office hours</td>
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<td>Lecture assistant (if any )</td>
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<td>Lab hours</td>
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## List of topics
- Data types, quality and pre-processing
- Data exploration
- Classification
- Association analysis
- Clustering
- Error estimation
- Data mining applications
- Data mining tools

## Teaching format
Frontal lectures and labs with theoretical and practical exercises. Group projects.

## Learning outcomes
**Knowledge and understanding:**
- Know in detail the scientific methodology of investigation applied to information systems and to innovative technologies with a particular focus on empirical data analysis. Understand and use tools of discrete and continuous mathematics, applied mathematics and physics, which are of support to informatics and its mathematical applications.

**Applying knowledge and understanding:**
- Be able to apply empirical analysis fundamentals of ICT data (e.g. Data Mining) for the construction of mathematical models and their applications.
models for the evaluation and prediction of the applications’ features and software systems.
- Be able to plan and conduct information systems’ analyses in order to acquire measures related to their behaviour and evaluate experimental hypothesis in the industrial sector or in the applied research.

Making judgments
- Be able to autonomously select documents from different sources, including technical books, digital libraries, scientific technical journals, web portals, open source software and hardware.
- Be able to identify work goals, compatible with available time and resources.

Communication skills
- Be able to present in a fixed time the content of a scientific/technical report to an audience composed also of non-specialists.
- Be able to coordinate a project team and identify those activities needed to reach the goals of the project.

Learning skills
- Be able to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the study course by reading and understanding scientific and technical documentation in English.
- Be able to formulate and validate theories and define new methods through empirical induction.

Module 1: Statistical Methods

Knowledge and understanding:
- Thoroughly understand the scientific method of investigation.
- Understand methods of mathematics and of statistics that support Information Technology and its applications.

Applying knowledge and understanding:
- Be able to design and execute experimental analyses on information systems or their components.

Making judgments:
- Be able to work autonomously according to the own level of knowledge.

Communication skills:
- Be able to structure and write scientific documentation.

Learning skills:
- Have developed learning capabilities to pursue further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

Be able to learn the innovative features of state-of-the-art technologies and information systems.

Module 2: Data Mining

Knowledge and understanding
- Know the main techniques for extracting information (associations, trends, dependencies, forecasts) from structured and unstructured data.
• Understand the methods of mathematics and statistics which are of support to information technology and its applications.

Applying knowledge and understanding
• Be able to identify new application requirements and business opportunities in the field of systems based on data and knowledge.
• Be able to design and execute experimental analyses on information systems or their components.

Making judgments
• Be able to independently select the documentation required to keep abreast of the frequent technological innovations in the field by using a wide variety of documentary sources: books, web, magazines.
• Be able to identify reasonable work goals and estimate the resources required to achieve the objectives.

Communication skills
• Be able to structure and prepare scientific and technical documentation describing project activities.
• Be able to coordinate the work of a project team and to interact positively with members of the group.

Ability to Learn
• Be able to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the study course by reading and understanding scientific and technical documentation.
• Be able to independently keep up to date with developments in the most important areas of Data Mining.

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**Assessment**

**Module 1: Statistical Methods**
The exam is written, with verification questions and written project report done in groups of 2/3 students.

**Module 2: Data Mining**
Final written exam: with verification questions and problem-solving tests
Assignments: consist in four homeworks with written questions and tasks that require some programming using Matlab/Octave/R.

**Assessment language** English

**Assessment typology** Collegial

**Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks**
This course foresees a PASS/FAIL exam.

**Module 1: Statistical Methods**
To pass the exam, the student must write a report on the research project which shows his/her ability to work in a team, creativity, skills in critical thinking and ability to summarize in own words. Furthermore, he/she must answer correctly to at least 50% of the open questions of the written part. The exam is the same for attending and non-attending students.
**Module 2: Data Mining**

**Evaluation Criteria**

Written final exam: 60% of the mark.
Assignments: 40% of the mark (10% each homework)

**Criteria for awarding marks**

Exam: correctness and clarity of answers, the ability to adequately solve machine learning problems and to understand how to choose the right technique.

Assignments: ability to implement and apply machine learning algorithms in a real-world problem, creativity, and ability to work in team.

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**Required readings**

**Module 1: Statistical Methods**

The main reference is:
S. Ross, Introduction to probability and statistics for engineers and scientists, Elsevier 2009

Slides will be provided on OLE.

Subject Librarian: David Gebhardi, David.Gebhardi@unibz.it

**Module 2: Data Mining**

Jiawei Han and Micheline Kamber, "Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques", Second Edition, 2006 (Available at FUB Library)

Introduction to Machine Learning (Alex Smola and S.V.N. Vishwanathan)

Introduction to Machine Learning (Nils J. Nilsson)

Understanding Machine Learning (Shai Shalev-Shwartz and Shai Ben-David)

**Supplementary readings**

Additional sources will be announced during the course.

**Software used**

- R/RStudio, Python+ScikitLearn/Jupyter