Welcome

- Jonathan R. Partington
  - Senior tutor for MSc programmes in School of Mathematics.
  - Office 9.13, e-mail J.R.Partington@leeds.ac.uk.
- Nathan Martin
  - Student support officer for postgraduate programmes.
  - Taught student office (level 8), e-mail N.J.Martin@leeds.ac.uk.

Everyone else here is on one of these programmes:

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Postgraduate welcome day, 21st Sep 2016

- 10:30–10:45 Arrival and issue of welcome pack.
- 10:45–11:05 Overview of MSc programmes.
- 11:05–11:10 Information on plagiarism.
- 11:10–11:20 Information on language resources.
- 11:45–12:00 Module choices.
- 12:00–13:00 Discuss options with programme managers.
- 13:00–14:00 Lunch.
- 14:00–16:00 Free time.
- 16:00–18:00 Welcome party (here, in the MALL).
Overview of MSc programmes

- Induction and orientation (Nathan Martin).
- Structure of the academic year at Leeds.
- Format of taught modules and lectures (semesters 1 & 2).
- Summer dissertation (MSc only).
- Useful people in the School of Maths.
- Other resources: computing and libraries.
Induction and orientation

Note that the School of Maths is split over three locations:

- Main location (here), with about 80% of staff.
- Satellite (on the Red Route, level 10).
- Physics Research Deck (hard to find...)

All necessary information about your programme can be read at
http://www.mathsstudents.leeds.ac.uk/taught-postgraduates.html
Structure of the 2016/17 academic year

- Mon 19th Sep–Fri 23rd Sep: induction week (now).
- Mon 26th Sep–Fri 9th Dec: semester 1 (11 teaching weeks).
- Mon 9th Jan–Fri 20th Jan: semester 1 examinations.
- Mon 23rd Jan–Fri 24th Mar: semester 2 (teaching weeks 1–9).
- Mon 24th Apr–Fri 5th May: semester 2 (teaching weeks 10–11).
- Mon 15th May–Fri 2nd Jun: semester 2 examinations.
- Mon 5th Jun–end of August: work on summer dissertation.
- middle of September: oral presentations for dissertation.
- Nov 2017: results available.
- Dec 2017: first opportunity to graduate.

There is a nice year planner with dates available at http://www.leeds.ac.uk/secretariat/almanac.html.
Semesters 1 and 2

Each 11 weeks of teaching. Take 50–70 credits of taught modules in each semester, adding to give 120–125 credits.

- 10 credit modules (100 hours of work in total).
  2h of classes per week + 4h (?) of private study per week, 
  + 34h (?) of revision: $(2 + 4) \times 11 + 34 = 100h$.

- 15 credit modules (150 hours of work in total).
  3h of classes per week + 6h (?) of private study per week, 
  + 51h (?) of revision: $(3 + 6) \times 11 + 51 = 150h$.

- 20 credit modules (200 hours of work in total).
  4h of classes per week + 8h (?) of private study per week, 
  + 34h (?) of revision: $(4 + 8) \times 11 + 68 = 200h$.

Some modules have coursework, but most are 100% exam.
All details are online: google ‘leeds module catalogue’.
We’ll talk about module choices and credit rules (etc.) later on.
Lectures

▶ Lectures start at 5 minutes past the hour and finish at 5 minutes to the hour. Aim to arrive on the hour.
▶ Many lectures are in the Roger Stevens Lecture Theatres.
▶ Most lectures are recorded (sound + video), and are available for viewing afterwards on the web (via the VLE).
▶ You are encouraged to ask questions during lectures.
▶ You will need to work afterwards to understand the lectures! This might involve reading library books (for a different perspective), doing any tutorial questions that have been set, doing extra examples, and visiting the lecturer for advice.
▶ Most modules have some kind of tutorial class, maybe every two weeks.
Summer dissertation (MSc only)

- MATH 5000M (Dissertation in Mathematics)...
- ... or MATH 5871M (Dissertation in Statistics)...
- ... or MATH 5872M (Dissertation in Data Science and Analytics).
- This is a 60 credit module (i.e., one third of your degree)!
- Reading and research project – there is a guide online.
- Choose topic (and supervisor) at the end of March.
- Approximately weekly meetings with your supervisor (in Leeds) over the summer.
- Assessed via dissertation (approximately 70 pages), an oral presentation (30 minutes) + questioning.
- You must be in Leeds in the middle of Sep 2017 to give your presentation.
Useful people

▶ Lecturers: mathematical problems with individual modules. You could ask questions by e-mail, but it is better to visit their office – most lecturers have regular advertised office hours.

▶ Programme coordinators (module choices, general questions):
  ▶ MSc & GD in Mathematics: Jonathan Partington.
  ▶ MSc in Mathematics and Computer Science: Alison Parker.
  ▶ MSc in Atmosphere–Ocean Dynamics: Stephen Griffiths.
  ▶ MSc in Statistics: Arief Gusnanto.
  ▶ MSc in Stats with Applications to Finance: Arief Gusnanto.
  ▶ MSc in Medical Statistics: Arief Gusnanto.
  ▶ MSc in Data Science and Analytics: Arief Gusnanto.
  ▶ GD in Financial and Actuarial Maths: Georgios Aivaliotis.

▶ Personal tutors (general advice, study problems).

▶ Nathan Martin (administrative questions).

▶ Director of Teaching: Margit Messmer, room 8.38 (complaints, degree rules).
Computing

- You will be issued with a university username for all services.
- There are various computer clusters (with Windows PCs) around campus.
- There is a WiFi network ‘eduroam’ in most buildings.
- For technical help, see http://it.leeds.ac.uk.
- There is student portal for various services:
  http://leedsportal.leeds.ac.uk
- Most modules use the VLE to support teaching:
  http://vlebb.leeds.ac.uk
- There are IT induction events this week (see handouts).
University library

- Three branches: Edward Boyle, Brotherton, and Laidlaw.
- Edward Boyle is for science and engineering books. It also has 1000 study seats and computer clusters. It is undergoing refurbishment, but part of the building is open.
- You can borrow up to 25 books, either as a standard loan (3 months), 7 day loan, or 4h loan (for high demand books).
- You can recall items out on loan.
- Visit http://library.leeds.ac.uk to search the catalogue, check your library record, access e-books and e-journals.
Problems

- If something goes wrong, please ask for help or advice sooner rather than later! It is hard to do anything afterwards.
- You could ask for help from your lecturer, personal tutor, or programme manager.
- Ask for special consideration if you are ill during exams, or something similar affects your learning or revision.
- Attend all teaching sessions.
  - You can request an absence authorization via the Portal.
  - Excessive absence may lead to exclusion from the University.
- If you fail an exam (i.e., less than 40% on level 3, or less than 50% on level 5), you may need to take a resit in August.
- There are various special rules covering these cases, many of which are given in the handbook.
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Plagiarism: links to information

http://library.leeds.ac.uk/skills-academic-integrity

http://www.leeds.ac.uk/vle/students/assess/academicintegrity/
Module choices

- Taught modules come in 10, 15, 20 and 30 credit chunks.
- You will take 120 or 125 credits of taught modules in semesters 1 and 2. Most students will try to take 60–65 per semester; some will take 50 in one semester and 70 in the other, but this is generally not recommended.
- MSc only: a compulsory 60 credit summer dissertation.
- Modules are classed as level 2 or 3 (undergraduate, MATH2xyz or MATH3xyz) or level 5 (postgraduate, MATH5xyz). There is no level 4!
- GD only: must pass 100+ credits, including 60+ at level 3.
- MSc only: must pass 150+ credits, including 135+ at level 5. If you only take 135 credits at level 5, then you have to pass them all. Although taking level 3 modules is generally useful, we strongly recommend that you take $\geq$ 135 credits at level 5.
Module organisation

▶ Many modules are *co-taught*: a level 3 and level 5 version share the same classroom.
▶ The level 5 modules have an additional teaching session each week, and the assessment is different (harder).
▶ You can’t take both the level 3 and level 5 versions of the module – there is considerable overlap.
▶ For co-taught modules, lectures are made up of undergraduates (taking level 3 modules), MMath students and MSc students (taking level 5 modules), and PhD students (who are required to take level 5 modules).
▶ Numbers in lectures will vary – perhaps from 10 (in some specialist level 5 modules) to 100 (in popular level 3 modules).
▶ Some modules exist that are only taught at level 3 or level 5.
Choosing modules

- This is largely up to you. However, you need to stay within the rules given in the programme catalogue (on web), and your choice needs to be approved by your programme manager.
- You might try more modules than you need in the first week of each semester, to assess the lecturing and course content.
- Register for modules through the Portal (until Sun 2nd Oct).
- After that, S1 modules can be changed until Fri 21st Oct (end of week 4) by seeing Nathan in the taught student office.
- Register for S2 modules now – but can change at start of S2.
- Discuss options with programme managers now!
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