

# ESSEX SUMMER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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April 2025



## Welcome to the Essex Summer School experience!

### Learn. Connect. Grow.

Welcome to the 58th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, taking place from 30 June 2025 – 15 August 2025 both online and at the beautiful University of Essex, Colchester Campus! Whether you're a budding social scientist or an experienced researcher, ESS offers world-renowned training in qualitative and quantitative research methods – and a dynamic international community to match.

### Why choose joining us in person at Colchester Campus?

- **200** acres of beautiful parkland
- **60** mins from London and Stansted Airport
- **2** miles from Colchester's centre – England's oldest recorded town
- **24** hours Information Centre opening hours every day during your stay

We offer convenient and comfortable on-campus accommodation, just steps from classes and events. With a 24-hour help desk, campus cafés, and nearby beaches, you're set for both study and fun.

[Read more](#)

*The balance between seminars/lectures/activities was perfect. I got a lot out of the course and felt I have learnt so much in such a short space of time.*

**- ESS participant, 2023**



## Social Programme: The Summer Beyond the Classroom

ESS isn't just about what you learn in class – it's about the people, the energy, and the memories you make. Our 2025 social calendar is packed with curated activities to help you bond, relax, and explore!

### Welcome Night – Break the Ice!



Kick off your summer with a warm and lively evening of conversation, laughter, and new friendships. Our Welcome Night is your first step into the ESS community - a relaxed space where stories are shared, connections spark, and the adventure truly begins.

### Staff Briefing



Our hybrid staff briefing unites instructors, coordinators, and directors to ensure we're all aligned for an impactful summer. It's also a great opportunity for new instructors to meet the team.

### Wivenhoe Pub Run – A Local Favourite



Discover the charm of Wivenhoe, a riverside village just a short walk from campus. This relaxed pub tour is a great way to sample local ales, meet the locals, and experience authentic British pub culture.

### Sports Night



Get moving! Join us for football, climbing, rounders (a UK classic), and light-hearted competition. No experience needed – just bring your energy and a good sense of humour.

### SU Bar Evenings



Take a mid-week breather with us at the Students' Union! Grab a drink, pick at some tasty nibbles, and catch up with friends and colleagues.

### The Harold Clarke Speaker Series – Be Inspired



ESS is proud to host brilliant minds across the field of social sciences. This hybrid series connects students with cutting-edge thinkers. Past speakers have included globally recognised professors and data science innovators.

**... AND MANY MORE**



# Course Spotlight

Explore cutting-edge methodologies and enhance your research skills with these standout courses from the 2025 Essex Summer School.

[Apply now](#)

## SESSION ONE: MONDAY 7 JULY – FRIDAY 18 JULY 2025

**1J** HYBRID  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

### Categorical Data Analysis

Instructor: Prof. Tobias Böhmelt

Dive into maximum likelihood-based models for categorical, discrete choice, and count data. This course covers logistic and probit regression, ordered models, multinomial logits, and count models using Stata.

**1M** HYBRID  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

### Introduction to Quantitative Methods in R

Instructor: Dr Rabia Malik

Gain a comprehensive introduction to quantitative data analysis using R. Topics include descriptive statistics, data visualization, data management, and linear regression. Perfect for beginners aiming to build a solid foundation in R for social science research.

**1N** ONLINE  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

### Methods for Field Work in Social Science

Instructor: Dr Alexandra Hartman & Dr Florian G. Kern

Learn the essentials of conducting fieldwork in social sciences. This course emphasises qualitative methods, data collection techniques, and ethical considerations in field research. Suitable for researchers planning to engage in field-based studies.

**1P** HYBRID  
1 WK  
17.5 HRS

### Agent-Based Models

Instructor: Darren Schreiber

Explore the fundamentals of agent-based modeling and its applications in social science research. This course covers model design, simulation, and analysis, providing hands-on experience in building and interpreting agent-based models.

**1T** HYBRID  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

### Introduction to Programming and Simulation Methods for Computational Social Science

Instructor: Chris Fariss

Delve into programming and simulation techniques essential for computational social science. The course introduces programming concepts, simulation models, and their applications in analysing complex social systems.



# SESSION TWO: MONDAY 21 JULY – FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 2025

**2H** ONLINE  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

## Introduction to Social Network Analysis (Online)

Instructor: John Barry Ryan

Understand the structure and dynamics of social networks. This course covers key concepts, metrics, and tools used in social network analysis, equipping you with skills to analyse relational data effectively.

**2S** HYBRID  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

## Scaling, Ideal Point Estimation, and IRT Methods for Surveys and Behaviour

Instructor: Prof. Royce Carroll

Learn advanced techniques for analysing survey data, including scaling methods, ideal point estimation, and Item Response Theory (IRT). This course is designed for researchers interested in measuring latent traits and preferences.

**2T** HYBRID  
2 WKS  
35 HRS

## Bayesian Analysis for the Social and Behavioural Sciences

Instructor: Dr. Richard Morey

Master the principles and applications of Bayesian data analysis. Starting with foundational theory, the course progresses to complex models using Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods, utilising software like JAGS and Stan.

[Apply now](#)

