

# Introduction to MATLAB

Lecturer: Rodolfo Baggio

## Language

English

## Course description and objectives

The course provides a gentle introduction to the MATLAB computing environment and is intended for beginning users. It is designed to give students a basic understanding of MATLAB by acquiring basic operational skills. The course consists of interactive lectures and sample MATLAB problems given as assignments and discussed in class. Concepts covered include basic use and toolboxes use, graphical representations and tips for designing and implementing MATLAB code.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Understand the main features of the MATLAB development environment
- Use the MATLAB GUI effectively
- Design simple algorithms to solve problems
- Write simple programs in MATLAB to solve scientific and mathematical problems
- Know where to find help for advanced usage

## Audience

The course is open to all Bocconi students. In particular it is for:

- Undergraduate and Master of Science students with an interest in numerical computing and numerical simulations
- Students who will need MATLAB to prepare their final thesis work

## Prerequisites

No prior programming experience or knowledge of MATLAB is assumed.

It is advisable to have a good familiarity with PC operations and a working knowledge of some basic application software (eg. Excel). Basic knowledge of computer programming and an understanding of matrix and linear algebra plus statistics are highly beneficial.

**Important notice:** The course presents the software MATLAB with its main features; therefore, it does not represent a “substitute” of a formal statistics or econometrics course, then the details of any statistical or econometrical methodology will not be treated.

## Duration

14 hours

## Calendar

Lecture	Date	Time	Room
1	Wed 24/10/2018	18.00 - 19.30	Info AS04
2	Fri 26/10/2018	14:30 - 17:45	Info AS04
3	Mon 29/10/2018	18.00 - 19.30	Info AS04
4	Wed 31/10/2018	18.00 - 19.30	Info AS04
5	Tue 13/11/2018	18.00 - 19.30	Info AS05
6	Thu 15/11/2018	18.00 - 19.30	Info AS04

## Syllabus of the course

Lecture	Topics	Book reference
1	<b>MATLAB basics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The MATLAB environment</li> <li>- Basic computer programming</li> <li>- Variables and constants, operators and simple calculations</li> <li>- Formulas and functions</li> <li>- MATLAB toolboxes</li> </ul>	<b>Ch. 1</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		
2	<b>Matrices and vectors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Matrix and linear algebra review</li> <li>- Vectors and matrices in MATLAB</li> <li>- Matrix operations and functions in MATLAB</li> </ul>	<b>Ch. 2 and 3 (3-1 to 3-23)</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		
	<b>Computer &amp; MATLAB programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Algorithms and structures</li> <li>- MATLAB scripts and functions (m-files)</li> <li>- Simple sequential algorithms</li> <li>- Control structures (if...then, loops)</li> </ul>	<b>Ch. 5</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		
3	<b>MATLAB programming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reading and writing data, file handling</li> <li>- Personalized functions</li> <li>- MATLAB graphic functions</li> <li>- Toolbox structure</li> </ul>	<b>Ch. 5 and 4 (4-1 to 4-22)</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		
4	<b>Numerical simulations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Numerical methods and simulations</li> <li>- Random number generation</li> <li>- Monte_Carlo_methods</li> </ul>	<b>Wikipedia MATLAB help</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		
5	<b>Simulations and Optimization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Numerical simulations</li> <li>- Simple optimization problems</li> </ul>	<b>Wikipedia MATLAB help</b>
<i>Exercises</i>		

Lecture	Topics	Book reference
6	<b>General review &amp; Hands-on session</b> Interactive hands-on-session where the class will develop one or more MATLAB scripts that solve an assigned problem <b>Final exercise</b>	<b>Ch. 3</b> <b>(3-45 to 3-71)</b>

## Software used

Matlab R2018b

## Suggested bibliography

- MATLAB Primer (R2018b)  
[www.mathworks.com/help/pdf\\_doc/matlab/getstart.pdf](http://www.mathworks.com/help/pdf_doc/matlab/getstart.pdf)
- Wikipedia  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte\\_Carlo\\_method](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Carlo_method)
- MATLAB help and User's Guide  
[www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/index.html](http://www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/index.html)  
Statistics Toolbox, Random Number Generation Functions  
[www.mathworks.com/help/stats/random-number-generation.html](http://www.mathworks.com/help/stats/random-number-generation.html)

Useful references:

- MATLAB: more documentation  
[it.mathworks.com/help/pdf\\_doc/matlab/index.html](http://it.mathworks.com/help/pdf_doc/matlab/index.html)
- MATLAB Central (script, toolbox, blog, newsgroup)  
[www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/](http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/)
- MATLAB Newsletters  
[www.mathworks.com/company/newsletters.html](http://www.mathworks.com/company/newsletters.html)

## Available seats

110