

Big Data Before Data Science, Preliminary Workshop Schedule

Tuesday, 9 December 2025

Big Picture:
chair TBC

- 9:00- 9:45 Amira Moeding
“Probabilistic Phenomena:” On the history of statistical modelling and the emergence of modern data science.
- 9:45-10:30 Christopher Phillips,
Aggregated Individuals
- 10:30-11:00 Morning tea/coffee break
- 11:00 -11:45 Matthew Daniel Eddy
Moral Statistics: Freedom, Bias and Dr James McCune Smith’s Encounter with the 1840 American Census
- 11:45 – 12:30 Stephanie Dick
“The Blaze of Lights at Western Avenue”: ‘Criminality’ and Computation in the first American Law Enforcement Databank
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

Tools: chair TBC

- 13:30- 14:15 Prashant Kumar
'Machines Without the Certainty of Machinery:' On Some Attempts to Automate Intelligence in the Trigonometrical Survey of India, 1790-1858
- 14:15-15:00 Moon Duchin
The tangible ballot: A history of voting tools
- 15:00- 15:30 Afternoon tea/coffee break

Weather:
Marysa Lague, chair

- 15:30- 16:15 Hannes Junker
In the Wind: Statistics at the British Met Office in the Second Half of the 19th Century
- 16:15 – 17:00 Amy Ackerberg-Hastings
Mathematics and Weather Data in Revolutionary and Early Republican American Colleges

Wednesday, 10 December 2025

Historiography: chair TBC

- 9:00-9:45 Jessica Otis
Death by Numbers: Collecting, Categorizing, and Communicating Mortality Data in Early Modern London
- 9:45-10:30 Michael Friedman
From the 17th century paper tools of Joachim Jungius to the digitalization of his *Nachlass*
- 10:30-11:00 Morning tea/coffee break
- 11:00-11:45 François Le
Using textometry in the history of mathematics: a sample of questions and answers
- 11:45 – 12:30 Kim M. Hajek
Paradoxical Reproducibility and Generalisation? Collecting Textual ‘Data’ through Case Histories of Psychotherapy

12:30-13:30 Lunch

Machines: chair TBC

13:30 – 14:15 Daniel Rosenberg

The Age of the Keyword

14:15 – 15:00 Florence Hsia

Paper tools for managing astronomers and astronomical data

15:00- 15:30 Afternoon tea/coffee break

15:30- 16:15 Peggy Kidwell

Data Processing before Data Science – A World of Tabulating Machines and Punch Cards

16:15- 17:00 David Dunning

Thinking with Punch Cards

Thursday, 11 December 2025

Quantified self:

Ehsan Karim, chair

9:00-9:45 Caroline Ehrhardt

The production and use of mortality data: administrative, actuarial and mathematical practices in the work of Emmanuel Etienne Duvillard de Durand (1755-1832)

9:45 – 10:30 Jemma Lorenat

Alice Through a Looking-Glass Darkly

10:30-11:00 Morning tea/coffee break

11:00 – 11:45 Alex Aylward

TBC

11:45-12:15 Iris Clever

Encoding Race: A History of Statistics, Biometric Data, and Algorithms

12:15-1:00 Beans Velocci

M or F, Three Ways: Information Infrastructures and the Persistence of Binary Sex in Large Data Sets

1:00 + Lunch and free afternoon

Conference DINNER

Friday, 12 December 2025

Pedagogy: Chair TBC

9:30- 10:15 Lee Kennedy-Shaffer,

Using Historical Materials in the Modern Statistics and Data Science Classroom

10:15- 11:00 Deborah Kent

Generating multi-layered discussions in Mathematics courses through historical case studies

11:00 – noon closing discussion