

Cambridge Social Data School – Frequently Asked Questions

Course content, level, pre-requisites

Q - What level of technical knowledge do you expect of participants?

A - We are looking for participants who are comfortable with regularly using computers in their work or study, but we don't require specialist knowledge or experience of programming. To keep up with the course you'll need to have some basic knowledge of how to find files on your computer, how to rename files, how to input data into a spreadsheet (e.g. Microsoft Excel) and how to install software.

Q - Do I need to know how to code to attend the Data School?

A - No, you don't. Coding will be introduced in some modules either for demonstration purposes or to complete simple tasks.

Q - Are there any academic requirements for attendance at the Data School?

A - There are no specific academic requirements however the course content is broadly suitable for those with an undergraduate degree or equivalent professional experience. *We strongly encourage participants to familiarise themselves with the contents on this free online course from Open University before attending the Data School:* <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/digital-humanities-humanities-research-the-digital-age/content-section-overview?active-tab=content-tab>

Q - Are there language proficiency requirements for the Data School?

A - The Data School will be taught in English and participants will need to be able to follow the live sessions, interact with other participants and read English in order to take part.

Q - What time commitment is expected in the Data School?

A - Each module in the School consists of 2 live sessions. The first hour long session will focus on demonstrating methods and techniques, so you should allow **around 1-2 hours in addition to** work through the material again before the second hour-long live session. The teaching materials provided will also include suggestions for further self-paced work on the topic which you may find beneficial if you want to explore in more depth.

Technical requirements, hardware, software

Q - What equipment do I need to take part in the Data School?

A - To access the Data School live sessions you will need an internet connection and a laptop. You can use a mobile phone or tablet to join the live video sessions but you will need to have a laptop on which you have admin privileges in order to install software to work through the course content.