The Statistical Social Research degree gives you the opportunity to develop sophisticated statistical analysis skills, which you are then able to apply to the real-world study of politics, crime, society or business.

The degree is supported by Kent’s Q-Step Centre, Kent Counts, which is based in our School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research. Kent is one of 15 universities in the UK that have been selected to host a Q-Step Centre. The Centre is funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, the Nuffield Foundation and the Economic and Social Research Council, and provides students with advanced training in quantitative methods in social sciences.

The programme
You develop your quantitative skills through modules that offer specialist training in cutting-edge techniques as well as training in how to understand, explain and critique data. You improve your presentation and communication skills and develop subject-specific knowledge in areas of interest to you, such as politics, international relations, sociology, criminology, social policy, law or business.

During your studies, you carry out at least one quantitative research project for an external organisation, in addition to other placements.

What you study
Aside from your quantitative teaching, you also choose modules from those offered in the School of Politics and International Relations, the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, and Kent Business School.

Stage 1
You take modules which develop your skills in using quantitative data to support your critical thinking about your life and the world. You improve your quantitative skills and advance your statistical knowledge.

Stage 2
You take an advanced module in causal thinking in quantitative research, and improve your skills in presenting and communicating quantitative analyses to a range of audiences including schools and the general public. You also choose from a list of advanced quantitative options including big data analysis, spatial analysis, longitudinal analysis, and multilevel analysis, and are trained in non-quantitative research. As part of one of your modules, you undertake a quantitative project.

Stage 3
You complete a dissertation based on your own quantitative research, and a placement module (see right) as well as further quantitative options (as outlined in Stage 2).

Placements
An important aspect of this degree is applying your quantitative skills in placement settings. The Practice of Social Research is a module which runs for one full academic year and includes a 200-hour placement. Your placement has a clear academic focus and is taken over two terms. We encourage you to undertake additional placements in the summer after Stage 2 or Stage 3, and to do a placement linked to your dissertation. It is also possible to undertake a full-time paid sandwich-year placement.

We have links to placements across many sectors, including government (national and local), think tanks and charities (including the UK’s leading supplier of data to the voluntary sector), cultural organisations and the private sector (including leading market research agencies). You are encouraged to gain experience in more than one sector.

Teaching and assessment
In addition to learning through lectures, seminars, workshops, project supervision, and statistics classes, you carry out hands-on research in the “field” through placements and field trips. Most modules are assessed by examination and coursework in equal measure.

University of Kent
Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities with all of our academic schools producing world-class research. The University is renowned for the quality of its teaching, with
nationalities and 41% of our research and academic staff are from outside the UK, creating a cosmopolitan atmosphere and a global learning environment.

A successful future
On this programme, you become an adaptable and flexible thinker. Alongside advanced quantitative skills, you gain excellent research skills and the ability to analyse complex information. You develop transferable skills such as: communication, presentation and organisational skills; experience of working as part of a team and independently; and familiarity with data computer programs. All of this places you in an excellent position for graduate employment.

The repeated practical and professional use of your skills means that you can move seamlessly into a quantitative career, in government, business, research or the voluntary sector.

The School also offers additional opportunities for you to further develop your employability skills. These include field trips in the UK and abroad, employability talks and networking events, to name but a few. You gain both a first-class education and the employability skills you need to pursue the career of your choice.

For more information on how Kent can improve your employability, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability

Further information
For more information about the Q-Step Centre, please contact us: E: qstep-info@kent.ac.uk

For more information and details of how to apply, please contact us: T: +44 (0)1227 827272 Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777 www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If the University discontinues any course, it will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative. To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection: for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons, the University needs to process information about its students. Full registration as a student of the University is subject to your consent to process such information.
COME AND VISIT US

We hold Open Days at our Canterbury and Medway campuses.
For more information, see:
www.kent.ac.uk/opendays