

Stats Clinic



Introduction and Pre-visit activities

Visit: [Stats Clinic AI Agent](#)

Visit: Academic Staff at [espressoMaths \(eM\)](#)

Introduction

At Stats Clinic our purpose is to offer a triage system, where we aim to diagnose your data analysis needs and direct you to relevant resources to allow you to complete your data analyses.

If your query relates to the analyses of a dataset, we ask you to perform some preliminary steps that will enable you to be fully engaged with the solution for your data analyses problem, and make your visit to the Stats Clinic more efficient.

Before meeting with a statistician, we ask that you consider your research question and design of your study (or the layout of your data set). You should ensure that each row of your dataset represents one observation unit (e.g. the person / animal / plant etc. being observed) and each of the columns relates to one measurement of that observation unit.

This process is designed to give you the opportunity to learn and perform your own statistical analyses, with no prior knowledge of statistics assumed. However, this means enabling you to perform tasks, not asking an academic or generative AI to perform the tasks for you.

Prior to meeting a statistician, we ask you to first interact with generative AI. The Stats Clinic Microsoft copilot agent has been specifically designed to help you understand your analyses better.

Interactions with a Statistician at espressoMaths are expected to last no longer than 10 minutes, thus some preliminary understanding gained from your interaction with generative AI will help you make the most of this time. In addition, the advice that a generative AI agent can offer, can extend further than the advice a statistician would be able to give you in the allotted espressoMaths time.

Understanding your research question

Prior to your interaction with a Stats Clinic advisor you will need to identify your research question. You should have an awareness of what you are trying to measure or predict (response variable), and what factors you have or will collect data for that could impact measurements of that variable (explanatory variables).

Getting started with Generative AI.

Before interacting with generative AI, you should have some awareness of: the resources available at UWE Bristol; how generative AI works; ethical considerations; and appropriate use within academic work. The following links give an overview of these fundamentals:

Introduction to how generative AI works: https://xerte.uwe.ac.uk/play_9055

Guidance on appropriate use in academic projects: https://xerte.uwe.ac.uk/play_9056

Interacting with the Stats Clinic AI agent

Step 1.

The quickest and recommend way to get started is to access our Stats Clinic agent on Microsoft Copilot – you will need to be signed in to your UWE Bristol account.

Visit: [Stats Clinic AI agent](#)

Step 2.

The AI agent will ask some important questions to gain an understanding of your research question and data collected. Please respond to each question fully, asking for clarification of a question where required.

Step 3.

The AI agent will provide a solution, read and review its recommendations. We suggest that you further interact with the AI agent using some of the following prompts that we have found useful:

- Please show me how to do [insert name of analysis recommended by AI agent] in [insert the name of the statistical software you use];
- Please inform me how to interpret the results of [insert name of analysis recommended];
- What do you mean by [insert any terminology used that you do not understand]?;
- Is there anything else that I should consider?

Step 4.

If you are happy with the solution then there may be no need to visit the statistician, however you may still wish to do so to check the advice given.

You may benefit from verification and further discussion of generative AI responses from academic staff at espressoMaths. If this applies then please do visit the Stats Clinic in person. When visiting the Stats Clinic you should bring your generative AI conversation with you to speed up the process in the Stats Clinic.

Responsible use of generative AI

UWE Bristol is committed to harnessing the transformative potential of generative AI to enhance learning, teaching and assessment.

Find out more about the UWE Bristol Principles for using generative AI:

[Principles for using generative artificial intelligence \(AI\) - Academic information | UWE Bristol](#)

Responsible and ethical use of AI is encouraged by the Stats Clinic, to uphold the highest standards of integrity, fairness, and accountability.

The library offers more detailed on generative AI usage including: strengths; limitations; good practice and correct attribution:

[Study skills - Study support | UWE Bristol](#)

Feedback

We are continually developing the Stats Clinic, and would very much like to hear about your experience using this service, including the Stats Clinic agent.

Please do visit the Stats Clinic academic staff to share your thoughts on good and not so good aspects of any interactions.

Alternatively, please give us feedback in the text box in our espressoMaths questionnaire [here](#). (Please let us know if you interacted with the Stats Clinic staff or the AI agent or both)

Disclaimer

If this service is being used for an assignment or dissertation, you should check your module handbook / module leader / assessment guidelines relating to the use of AI.

Various AI tools are available, and their functionality may vary, especially as AI technology evolves, making rigorous testing by the Stats Clinic team unfeasible. Therefore, it is the user's responsibility to ensure the suitability of these tools for their purposes, and to use them responsibly.

The guidance from the Stats Clinic team, Microsoft copilot AI agent and other AI, comes with no guarantee.