

Doing Research with SNA: Tools, Theories, and Applications

Monday 3 January - Wednesday 5 June 2019

09:00-17:00

Instructors: Prof. Bruce Cronin and Dr Matthew Smith

This course is aimed at those researchers and post-graduate students who are new to the field of social network analysis (SNA), and would like to better understand whether and how they can use it to enhance their research programmes. The goal of the course is to provide attendees with a general overview of the field of social network analysis, confidence in using its key analytical tools in practice, and insight into how it can be used in scholarly practice in different fields. Focus is on research design and how SNA elements can be successfully integrated into a research project, paper, or dissertation.

Requirements

All social science backgrounds are welcome, and participants are assumed not to have any previous knowledge of SNA, or of any analytical or statistical software.

Participants will be mainly expected to use UCINET and Netdraw during the course (even if other software will be discussed). No previous experience with the software is expected.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course participants will be able to: (1) independently design a research programme requiring SNA in their own field of research; (2) collect and manage network data; (3) analyse, interpret and visualise fundamental network measures at the individual, group and network level; (4) confidently use UCINET and NetDraw to perform network analysis and visualise network data.

The goal of the course is to provide attendees with a general overview of the field of social network analysis, confidence in using its key analytical tools in practice, and insight into how it can be used in scholarly practice in the social, economic, managerial and political disciplines. Focus is on research design and how SNA elements can be successfully integrated into a research project, paper, or dissertation.