# Delivering Online Content
## (Experience from an online MSc Programme)

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- These slides summarise the experience Maths and Stats lecturers have obtained in the Data Analytics postgrad courses
- They are for use by **UCD** staff in the event of campus closure due to a potential COVID-19 epidemic.
- Additional resources are available here.

# Online Programmes in Data Analytics

In 2020 the programme has:

- approximately 120 MSc students and 50 Prof Dip students.
- 18 5-credit modules in total.
- MSc over 3 years with 2 modules per trimester.
- Some overlap / equivalence with traditional (offline) modules.
- A high number of registrations to many modules from outside the programme.

# Online Delivery of Content

- Students are part time and all content is delivered online.

- They come to UCD for exams at the end of each trimester.

- Assignments submitted via Brightspace and graded by tutors.

- Modules on theory, application, and coding.

- Discussion forums on Brightspace central to success of programme.
  - These are monitored each week by designated tutors (escalation to lecturer as necessary).
  - Recommend posting rules for these on politeness, etc.

- Video walkthroughs and screencasts are primary method of content creation.

- Videos primarily created using Explain Everything

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# Student Testimonial 1

*I decided to undertake the MSc in Data Analytics having first completed a number of short MOOC courses. I was attracted to the depth and breath of the course and the balance of theory and practice compared with other options. At the time I was a Software Architect and wanted to focus more on data analytics and machine learning.*

*The course was everything I had hoped for and has been an incredible journey.*

*I now work as a Big Data Architect and find my new role very rewarding and enjoyable.*

# Student Testimonial 2

*I am the lead information architect in the HSE. I Have always had a strong interest in data and in particular health data. The course as given me a statistical computing knowledge as regards the tools and knowledge required to gain insight from our maturing information services platform in the HSE. I found the lecturers and support staff very helpful and supportive for the duration of the course.*

# Student Testimonial 3

*I could not afford to give up my job so* needed a course that allowed me to engage part time and remotely. This course was perfect for this.
*The delivery of the course material through the web worked well, with* informative additional discussion through the associated course Forums.

# Student Testimonial 4

*This course attracted me due to it being . . . a nice mixture of software engineering and statistics. . . . the modules are structured well with assignments, homework and labs to ensure continuous involvement with the material. On the other hand, lecturers are understanding of the full time employment of majority of student by giving enough time to complete assignments.*

# Summary

- Online delivery of level 4 modules is very achievable.
- Student feedback is very positive from our programme. We have adapted delivery systems over the years.
- The Brightspace VLE is a useful tool for delivery, monitoring progress, etc.
- We will post these notes along with the tutorial / demo notes online.
- We are happy to provide advice and answer queries . . . but will focus response through the creation of FAQ documents.

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