**Introduction**

There are many free resources for getting to grips with R and the ***RStudio*** software. Because R is a programming language, there are often different ways to achieve the same aims. Which method you prefer is up to you. For this reason we would recommend that a learner uses a variety of resources. Fortunately, there are many free resources available to get you going.

**First Steps in R from MASH**

Although there are many excellent introductory R resources, most start by assuming the learner has downloaded ***R*** and/or ***RStudio*** and is aware of some of the ideas behind coding (eg. the difference between a console and a GUI).

If you are completely new to coding or you would like to know what software to download in order to get going, our “First Steps in R” resources are for you. There are video tutorials and written help sheets which start at the very beginning and get you up and running.

You can find the resources at [www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/statistics/r](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/statistics/r)

These resources are made to suit the needs of members of the University of Sheffield. If there are resources you would like but which are not currently available through MASH, please let us know here [www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/contact](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/contact)

**R Workshops or MASH 1:1 Sessions**

MASH run workshops in R. Details can be found on [www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/workshops](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/workshops)

We also have bookable one-to-one appointments and drop in sessions. If you would like help getting going you can find more details at [www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/bookings](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/mash/bookings)

**Websites/Online Textbooks**

An introductory R course is available on this website: [www.datacamp.com/courses/free-introduction-to-r](http://www.datacamp.com/courses/free-introduction-to-r)

“YaRrr! The Pirate’s Guide to R” is a clear, free online textbook available at [https://bookdown.org/ndphillips/YaRrr](https://bookdown.org/ndphillips/YaRrr/)

*Learn by example* is an easily followable and well set out website with a good guide to R: [www.learnbyexample.org/r](http://www.learnbyexample.org/r/)

[www.r-tutor.com](http://www.r-tutor.com/) does what it says on the tin!

**Swirl**

Swirl is a package for learning R interactively within RStudio.

Begin by installing the “swirl” package by typing the following command into the console:

install.packages(“swirl”)

Once the installation is complete, launch the swirl package by typing

library(“swirl”)

From here swirl will automatically begin interacting with you. Simply read the instructions on the screen and enter your responses.