

On FutureLearn from January 2023...

The Winton Centre for Risk & Evidence Communication
The Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science
& Northumbria Law School present:



FORENSIC STATISTICS

THE CASE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL...

Statistics are about populations. But in a legal case, what matters is what happened to an individual, or in a particular instance. How can we apply population-level statistics to an individual case?

THE PROBLEM OF THINKING BACKWARDS...

Statistics usually tell us the chances of an event occurring given a certain set of circumstances.

Forensic statistics need to help us think backwards after an event has occurred. What were the likelihoods of the different sets of circumstances that could have led to it?

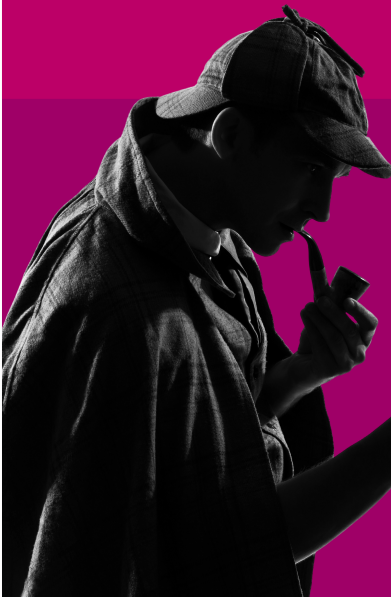
THE WRONG NUMBER MYSTERY...

Numbers can easily mislead in a case:

Are you looking at the right number?
Are you comparing it to the right number? How would you know?

THE HARD TRUTH...

To translate accurately between the probabilistic world of science and the realm of legal causality requires an understanding of both. That is why forensic statistics is such a critical part of legal training.



from January 2023... you can learn :

- the language of probabilities and likelihoods
- how to spot and avoid common logical mistakes
- how to cross-examine on scientific evidence
- how to communicate forensic findings appropriately

