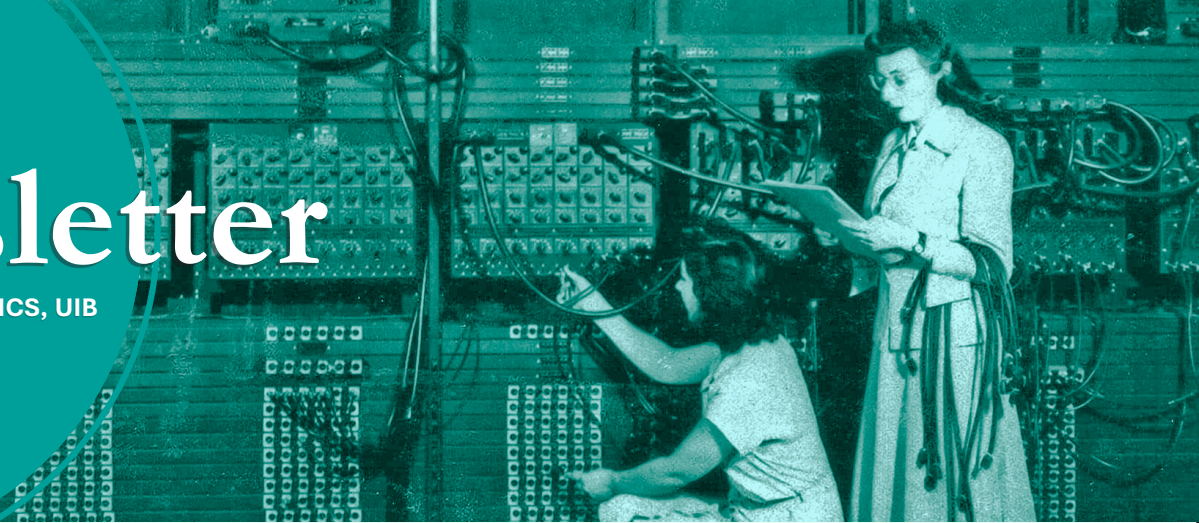


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB
No.16/2022, 23.09.2022



Editor-in-chief: Inge Jonassen. Editor: Randi Heggernes Eilertsen.
Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.
Old newsletters can be found [here](#).

Dear Colleagues,

At our department we need to work to improve our gender balance and equality. Statistics for both students and staff show that women are underrepresented at all levels. This autumn we have established a working group tasked with developing an action plan that will work out concrete steps that we will follow hopefully helping us in the right direction. The focus in this work will be the faculty and scientific staff at the department. It is important to underline that while we strive to improve the gender balance, we will still do our very best to recruit the candidates who are the best qualified to each position. Only when two candidates are equally well qualified, the gender of the applicants will be considered. There should be no doubt about the qualifications of the women that we employ!

There are, however, more subtle aspects that need to be addressed for example making evaluation committees aware of possible unconscious biases. Extensive research has shown that such biases are very common and result in women having a disadvantage relative to male “competitors” when applying for jobs, external funding etc. I am afraid many of us have these biases without knowing it, and the best we can do is to become more aware and try to avoid them influencing our judgment of job applications etc.

Becoming aware of possible biases is naturally also important when it comes to assessment of students. David Grellscheid gave a very interesting presentation on this topic yesterday. David has

taught our introductory programming course INF100 four consecutive semesters. His analysis shows that in one of the exams, the grades obtained by women students were significantly worse than those of men students. This is especially surprising when we know that the statistics show that women students at our faculty overall obtain better grades than men students. Further research is needed to understand why and to find out what we can do to avoid such effects on future exams. The presentation stimulated really interesting discussions and a lot of engagement in the audience. My take-away is that we may have a situation that is similar as for recruitment processes: it is important first to understand patterns related to gender (or other characteristics) and then seek to correct for them.

Today the Research Council of Norway announced the awards of the status and funding as Centers of Excellence, and we were all disappointed that our Social Algorithms proposal was not on the list. I want to again thank Fedor and his team who did a fantastic job on the proposal, and I am confident that the ideas developed in the application can lead to other initiatives and results in the coming years!

I would like to wish you all a very nice weekend!



The Dean's Blog - Gunn Mangerud



[The Dean's blog](#) aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

Her latest postings:

[Strategi 2023-2030](#)

[Har studenter tid til å være fulltidsstudenter lenger?](#)

PhD Updates



There's a new PhD in town...

Congratulations, Lars Albin Severinson!

Albin successfully defended his thesis “Straggler-Resilient Distributed Computing” on the 9th of September.

Congratulations, Albin!



There's a new PhD in town...

Congratulations, Laura Ann Garrison!

Laura successfully defended her thesis “From Molecules to the Masses” on the 16th of September.

Congratulations, Laura!

Welcome, new colleagues!



Raoul Koudijs

Raoul is joining us as a new PhD Research Fellow in Informatics, studying knowledge representation and machine learning. Raoul is from the Netherlands, and did his Master's degree at the University of Amsterdam, at the Institute for Logic, Language and Computation.

Welcome, Raoul!

Current Issues

Save a life

It's a good idea to familiarize ourselves with the location of the defibrillator. At our department, it is located on the wall between the 4th floor, on the wall right outside the lifts. Use of the defibrillator is self-explanatory; the process is explained when one opens the case. However, watching an [instructional video](#) might be useful.

If someone is unconscious or difficult to wake up/keep awake, always call the emergency number: (+47) 113. They will be able to give you instructions and send help if needed.



Prevent a fire

Have you still not completed the fire prevention course?

All UiB Employees must complete a fire prevention course which consists of a digital part, and a practical part on how to put out fires. This is required by law. If you still haven't taken the course, [please read more and sign up here](#).

The practical English course this autumn will be on the 8th of December.

Save your back

UiB's physiotherapist will visit us on the 28th of September at 09:00-14:00. Her mission is to help us with ergonomic assessment of our new employees' office workplaces.

If you are not among the new employees since March 2022, but still want us to visit you for an ergonomic assessment of your office workplace – please sign up asap by sending an email to Linda Vagtskjold.



Tomorrow (Saturday the 24th) you can bring your young or adult children to Forskningstorget, where scientists will have booths allowing you to get a bite-sized insight into their field of study. CBU will be there, so drop by and say hi! The event is from 11:00 to 16:00, and is happening on Festplassen.

Guest and trainee registration, spring 2023

Are you considering inviting a trainee, intern, or guest student for the spring semester? The application portal is now open, with deadline 10 October.

[More information.](#)

Christmas party!

The legendary Informatics Christmas Party is finally back! Make sure you and your colleagues save the date: 9th of December. More details to come.

Be there!



Department seminars: Suggest speakers!

Department seminars are back, and Mikhail Barash and Pål Drange are open for suggestions. If there's someone who you think would make a great speaker, let Mikhail and/or Pål know.



“UiB Ferd supports early stage researchers in their career development”

UiB Ferd Career Centre supports doctoral candidates, postdoctoral fellows, researchers and associate professors. We offer a range of services designed to help you develop your career within or beyond the university.

[You can sign up for the UiB Ferd newsletter here.](#)

Upcoming UiB Ferd events include:

- [Course in copyright for photographs](#)
- [Data Management Plan \(DMP\) WORKSHOP \(Course\)](#)
- [Digital meetings and the new proximity \(Lecture\)](#)
- [Improve Your Academic Writing and Presentation Skills in English \(Course - language\)](#)
- [Make your research visible using researcher profiles \(Course\)](#)

Digital Life 2022

20-21 October
Scandic Lerkendal,
Trondheim

Join us for the annual conference for the Centre for Digital Life Norway – Digital Life Conference 2022 - in Trondheim 20-21. October 2022!

Time and place: Oct. 20, 2022 12:00 PM–
Oct. 21, 2022 4:00 PM, Scandic Lerkendal,
Trondheim

[Read more and register here](#)

Portfolio workshop: Excellent Teaching Practitioner

Workshop: "The well-structured teaching portfolio"

The workshop is especially intended for those considering applying for the Pedagogical Academy (Excellent Teaching Practitioner) now, or in the future. It is also relevant for teachers, leaders and teaching/education staff that will write or read teaching portfolios.

In addition, Harald Walderhaug (vice dean education, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences) will contribute around the open application process to the Pedagogical Academy at the Faculty and Stein Dankert Kolstø (professor at the Department of Physics and Technology and ETP 2018) will contribute around his own application process.

Date: 29.10.2020 [Read more](#)

Open source - Autumn 2022

The UiB University Library continues its popular webinar series on the principles of Open Science in autumn 2022.

The UiB University Library and its [Digital Lab](#) offer a wide range of interesting courses and events – please find more information in the [calendar](#).

Data management Plans

A data management plan (DMP) describes how data in a research project will be collected, processed, and made available. Writing a DMP is good scientific practice which helps structuring the data management in a research project and a requirement by research funders, e.g. The Norwegian Research Council or Horizon Europe. See also our information page [UiB Library - Data Management Plans](#).

- August 19th 10:00-11:00 CET: [Introduction to Data Management Plans \(in Norwegian\)](#)
- September 30th, 10:00-14:00 CET: [Data Management Plan Workshop](#)

Following an introduction to data management plans, you will be able to work on your own DMP and receive feedback.

- November 25th, 10:00-11:00 CET: [Introduction to Data Management Plans](#)

How to make your data open & FAIR

Researchers are encouraged to make their data openly available as early as possible in the research process, and most funders, e.g. Norwegian Research Council or Horizon Europe, and publishers require that the research data from a project is made openly available. In the course you will get an introduction to how you can make your research data open and FAIR, and how to archive your data in our institutional archive UiB Open Research Data. See also our information page [UiB Library - Open Access to Research Data](#).

- September 2nd, 10:00-11:00 CET: [How to make your data open & FAIR](#)
- December 9th, 10:00-11:00 CET: [How to make your data open & FAIR \(in Norwegian\)](#)

Open Access publishing step-by-step

Governments, institutions, and research funders expect researchers to make their research openly available. What is open access, why should you make your research publications openly available and what services and support is available at UiB? See also our information page: [UiB Library – Open Access Publishing](#)

- September 16th, 10:00-10:45 CET: [Open Access publishing step-by-step](#)

Make your research visible using researcher profiles

Having a researcher profile is a great way to showcase contributions to your field and open science engagement. This seminar will demonstrate how to use ORCID and other researcher profiles to showcase your work. See also MittUiB online course [UBB103 Profiles and Publishing Statistics](#) and our information page [UiB Library – Bibliometric services and analysis](#).

- October 14th, 10:00-10:45 CET: [Make your research visible using researcher profiles](#)

Open Access Week

Open Access Week is an annual scholarly communication event focusing on open access and related topics. The national Norwegian program is the result of a collaboration between UiB and several other institutions and infrastructures. Stay tuned!

- October 24th-28th: [Open Access Week 2022](#)

Finding & reusing research data

Reusing published research data can open new avenues of research and avoids unnecessary duplication of efforts. The webinar will give an introduction to FAIR research data as a resource, explain data citation, and demonstrate strategies to efficiently discover datasets in your discipline.

- November 11th, 10:00-11:00 CET: [Finding & reusing research data](#)

International Newsletter

UiB has a newsletter made especially for internationals, where you can find useful tips and news about upcoming events.

If you have moved to Bergen from a different country, we highly recommend subscribing to the newsletter [here](#).

You can also follow the International Centre calendar to find events that are of particular interest to international staff and students. Here are some upcoming events:

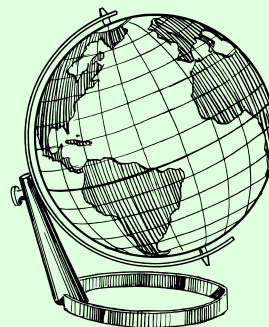
[“Paying tax in Norway”](#)

[“Introduction course for new employees”](#)

[“Taking care of yourself” \(Seminar\)](#)

[“Working with Norwegians” - Crack the hidden codes of Norwegian workplaces and social life](#)

[See the full calendar here.](#)



Nordic AI Meet

14 and 15 November 2022, Oslo, Norway

Join us for a conference with some of the world's brightest minds in the field of AI to learn, inspire and build a community. The NordicAIMeet symposium provides a platform for young AI researchers to exchange ideas, build collaborations and form a nordic approach to building AI solutions for the societal good.

[Read more.](#)

NORA Research School

If you are a PhD student within the field of AI from a NORA-partner institution (that includes us), we encourage you to become a member of the [NORA Research School](#).

NORA is in the process of establishing research school for PhD students at our partner institutions. However, membership in NORA's Research School is already open to any PhD student from a NORA partner institution with a project related to artificial intelligence, machine learning and/or robotics.

You can be a member of several research schools simultaneously, and there are no obligations, costs or commitments to being a member. Through membership in NORA Research School you will be the first to receive relevant information about and the opportunity to participate in courses, lectures and events.

Vacant positions

- [Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics - Machine Learning](#)
- [Senior engineer/ Chief Engineer](#)
- [Researcher in Informatics: Algorithmic foundations of data science](#)
- [PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – \(energy informatics, optimization and data science\)](#)
- [Associate Professor in Informatics – Programming Theory](#)
- [MSCA SEAS postdoctoral research fellow in bioinformatics for marine sustainability](#)
- [Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics – Visualization / Visual Data Science](#)

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Horizon Europe Success Factors

Welcome to the third event on Horizon Europe for UiB researchers, on Friday 7 October.



Photo: Renate Paulsen/UiB

On 7 October 2022, the University of Bergen is inviting its academic staff for a whole day event about Horizon Europe.

“The focus is on factors for succeeding with your proposals for project funding - strategic networking, proposal writing and the evaluation process - but also on how we link a research project to the big, global challenges.”

Registration deadline:
30.09.2022 - 12.00

For more information, please visit the [event website](#).

4. november 2022 inviterer Universitetet i Bergen til konferansen «Intelligente Bergen – kraftsenter for kunstig intelligens». Intelligente Bergen skal samle næringsliv, offentlig sektor, forskere og studenter i Bergen for å styrke og fremme vår regions posisjon som nasjonalt ledende innen forskning på og anvendelse av kunstig intelligens (AI).

Registration deadline:
28.10.2022 - 12.00

For more information, please have a look at the [event website](#).

KONFERANSE

Intelligente Bergen - kraftsenter for kunstig intelligens

Intelligente Bergen skal samle næringsliv, offentlig sektor, forskere og studenter i Bergensregionen for å få frem muligheter og utfordringer relatert til kunstig intelligens (AI). Velkommen!

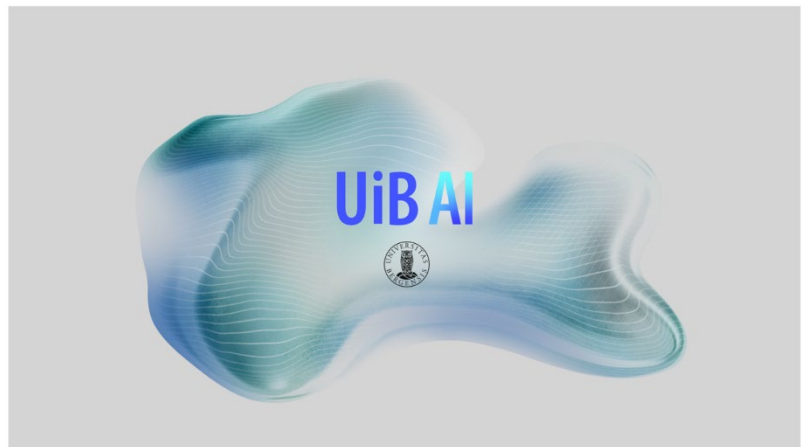


Photo: UiB AI

MapAI: Precision in Building Segmentation

MapAI: Precision in Building Segmentation is a competition arranged with the Norwegian Artificial Intelligence Research Consortium (NORA) in collaboration with Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research at the University of Agder (CAIR), Kartverket, AI:Hub, Norkart, and The Danish Agency for Data Supply and Infrastructure. We propose two different tasks to segment buildings, where the first task can only utilize aerial images, while the second must use laser data (LiDAR) with or without aerial images.

First deadline: 25 November 2022

For more information, please have a look at the [website](#).

MapAI: Precision in Building Segmentation

Accurate information about buildings is essential for policy-making and city management. Using computer vision technologies such as classification, object detection, and segmentation has proved helpful in several scenarios, such as urban planning and disaster recovery. As a step towards better computer vision for areal images, we present a machine learning competition open to all participants worldwide. The competition has two parts: (1) aerial image segmentation and (2) laser data segmentation, each requiring a unique solution.

Northern Lights Deep Learning Conference 2023

10-12 January

Winter School: 9-13 January

EXTENDED SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 03. October 2022 23:59 Pacific Time

Deep learning is an emerging subfield in machine learning that has in recent years achieved state-of-the-art performance in image classification, object detection, segmentation, time series prediction and speech recognition to name a few. This conference will gather researchers both on a national and international level to exchange ideas, encourage collaborations and present cutting-edge research.

Call for papers deadline: 3 October 2022

For more information, please have a look at the [website](#).

Upcoming Funding Opportunities



New north2north program: “North2north is the mobility program in the [UArctic network](#). In this call it is possible to apply for funding to incoming and outgoing staff, and outgoing students (incoming students apply directly to n2n).” More information can be found on [this website](#).

Application deadline: 30 September 2022



Sabbatical: All at least 50%, permanently employed professors and associate professors can apply for a [sabbatical](#) and, if relevant, related travel funds.

Application deadline: 1 October 2022



New TMS Trustworthy AI: The Trond Mohn Foundation (TMS) has opened a [call for research projects in the area of Trustworthy AI](#). “UiB is invited to nominate 5-8 project proposals to TMS. Each project may be granted TMS funding for maximum 4 years. The maximum contribution from TMS is NOK 6 million per project (for projects lasting 4 years). It is a prerequisite for funding that any TMS contribution is matched by resources from the participating institutions at about the same level.”

At the Department of Informatics, we would like to ask everyone planning to coordinate such an initiative to inform Stefanie Meyer and Inge Jonassen about their plans by no later than 7 October 2022. If any of our staff are invited to join initiatives coordinated by other research environments at UiB, then please also let us know as soon as possible.

Application deadline for UiB’s pre-selection process: 7 November 2022, 13:00. **The department needs to receive applications coordinated by our staff latest by 4 November!**



CAS project: “The Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) invites researchers to pursue excellent, fundamental, curiosity-driven research in Oslo during the 2024/2025 academic year. Assemble your international dream team of prominent researchers and [apply for a research stay at CAS](#).”

Application deadline: 18 October 2022



AIM SQuaREs: Program “to allow a dedicated group of four to six mathematicians to spend a week at AIM in San Jose, California.”

Application deadline: 1 November 2022



NordForsk University Cooperation: “The aim of the [call](#) is to strengthen international competitiveness and facilitate the development of excellent Nordic research environments. The call is initiated to support research-based university cooperation across the Nordic region, to increase researcher mobility, enhance capacity and competence building and thereby the excellence and significance of Nordic research cooperation. The call is open to all themes and disciplines.” This is a call for pre-proposals.

Application deadline: 2 November 2022



New Young CAS Fellow: “The Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) in Oslo is now accepting applications for the [Young CAS Fellow programme](#) for the period of August 2023 to June 2025. CAS’ mission is to further excellent, fundamental research. By providing our scholars with optimal working facilities and uninterrupted time for research, we pave the way for groundbreaking scientific results.”

Application deadline: 9 December 2022



New Researcher projects: The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce calls for researcher projects ([renewal](#) & [young](#)) targeting pre-defined focus areas. Even though free, groundbreaking research will not be among the topics, several other areas may be relevant.

Application deadline: 8 February 2023
(tentative date)



ERC Synergy Grant 2023: “Are you a researcher that wants to address a research problem so ambitious, that can not be dealt with you and your team alone? The Synergy Grants could be for you!” In Synergy Grants, 2-4 PIs at ERC level apply together.

[Application](#) deadline: 8 November 2022

New ERC proposal course for CoG and AdG applicants on 8-9 Nov 2022

“Find out how to best prepare your application with this digital workshop. The Consolidator Grant stipend is for mid-career researchers (7-12 years after their PhD is defended) who would like to propose a groundbreaking and risky project that they could not finance anywhere else. Researchers with more than 12 years of experience are eligible to apply for the Advanced Grant.”

For more information and the link to registration, please have a look at the [website](#). Registration deadline: 7 Nov 2022



Forskningssrådet

Enabling technologies: The Research Council is planning to open a [call for Researcher Projects targeting technology development](#), and a [call for Collaborative Projects advancing technology development](#) across relevant research areas within enabling technologies.

Application deadline: 16 November 2022
(tentative date)

Please contact research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#) if you plan to apply. All applications need to be approved by the department leadership. Our list of [research support services](#) is also available online.

NORBIS activities

8th and last annual NORBIS conference

The last annual NORBIS conference will be taking place this October. Registration is closed but send an email to contact-norbis@uib.no if you like to join.

Dates: October 24-28, 2022. **Location:** Rosendal Fjordhotel, Rosendal.

Organizers: NORBIS in collaboration with MedBioInfo. **Invited speakers:**

Alexander Schug (Steinbuch Centre for Computing), Harald Binder (Institute of Medical Biometry and Statistics, University of Freiburg), Barbara Bakker (University of Groningen), Andreas Raue (HiFiBiO Therapeutics), Thomas Rattei (University of Vienna), David Páez-Espino (Joint Genome Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab), Milan Malinsky (University of Bern), Kara Dicks (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland), Marcin Wojewodzic (FHI).

Short conference description: A five-day NORBIS conference with Student talks, poster sessions, keynote lectures and workshops. The conference will this year be in collaboration with the MedBioInfo research school based in Sweden. Our focus will be on the students and their research, with four themed days from the core of NORBIS topics: Statistical methods and machine learning, systems biology and modelling, metagenomics, and population genetics. We will also have a session on careers outside of university, and teambuilding with VilVite. [More information and link to registration here.](#)



Bioinformatics Methods for next Generation Sequencing Analysis (MOL8008)

Dates: 3 – 7 October 2022. **Location:** St.Olavs Hospital/NTNU, Trondheim. **Organiser:** Morten Beck Rye.

Evaluation: Report based with grade pass/fail. **Registration:** [HERE](#). If you wish to earn credits, you will find information about this [HERE](#). **Registration deadline:** September 2nd, 2022. **Credits:** 7,5 ECTS.

Course description: The course will introduce bioinformatic approaches, tools and pipelines for computational analyses of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) data. Focus will be on analysis methods for coding and non-coding RNA from RNA-seq, and transcription factors and epigenetic markers from ChIP-Seq. The course will cover strategies, methods and workflows used for analyses of such data, including mapping to reference genomes, feature extraction, and statistical analysis. In addition, the biological interpretation of output from such analyses will be presented as case studies from scientific journals. [More information here.](#)

Genome sequencing technologies, assembly, variant calling and statistical genomics

Dates: 17-28 October & 1-2 December 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Torbjørn Rognes. **Lecturers:** Arvind Sundaram (Oslo University Hospital), Ave Tooming-Klunderud (UiO), Bastiaan Star (UiO), Gregor Gilfillan (Oslo University Hospital), Ivar Grytten (UiO), Karin Lagesen (Norwegian Veterinary Institute), Milena Pavlovic (UiO), Sigve Nakken (Oslo University Hospital), Thomas Haverkamp (Norwegian Veterinary Institute), Torbjørn Rognes (UiO), Trine B. Rounge (UiO), Ying Sheng (Oslo University Hospital). **Credits:** 10 ECTS. **Evaluation:** There will be a 2-hour written exam, and the project work will be evaluated based on an oral presentation. Both exams have to be passed in the same semester. 80% attendance is required to be allowed to take the exams.

Short course description: The course provides knowledge of sequencing technologies and hands-on experience with the analysis of data from several sequencing platforms and for various applications. The two main applications that will be covered are de novo genome assembly and variant calling (SNPs and structural variants), while other aspects like control of quantity and quality of data will also be included. Furthermore, the course will show how to use statistical genomics to analyse features of annotated genomes. [More information and link to registration here.](#)

Modern methods for analyzing survival and time to event data (IMB9335)

Dates: 5-9 December, 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Morten Valberg. **Lecturers:** Morten Valberg, Håkon K. Gjessing, Ørnulf Borgan, Odd O. Aalen. **Credits:** 4 ECTS. **Evaluation:** The exam will be a home exam in the form of project work. The students should deliver their written project report within a month after the end of the course. The exam paper will be provided in English and should be answered in English.

Short course description: The analysis of survival data and other types of time-to-event data are central in modern medical research and a number of other fields. A large number of methods for analysing time-to-event data have been developed, but many researchers have no knowledge of survival analysis, or they only know the most basic methods. The aim of the course is to give PhD-students and other researchers in biostatistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, and related fields an up-to-date overview of statistical methodology for analysing time-to-event data. The course is given over five days and computer exercises will be an integrated part of the course. [More information and link to registration here.](#)