

**Introduction to SAS  
Preconference Workshop  
2019 CRDCN National Conference  
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

Instructor: Heather Hobson

Date: October 23, 9:00-11:30 (timetable tbc)

Venue: Dalhousie University, Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, 6100 University Avenue, room 3080.

**Description**

Of the three statistical software packages most commonly used by social scientists, SAS is likely best at manipulating large datasets. This is why SAS remains the statistical software of choice within Statistics Canada. As such, some of the datasets that are produced by Statistics Canada and found in the RDCs are in only SAS format -- due to the size of the files (example: Census) or the data extraction tools that Statistics Canada has developed (example: the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics).

This hands-on introductory workshop is designed to provide novice users with the skills to convert ASCII or .txt files into the SAS format, to reduce or delete variables from the dataset, to recode variables, remove missing values, produce descriptive statistics (frequencies, means), merge data files and export data files into another statistical software.

This workshop is geared toward the interests of both novice users who are interested in producing descriptive statistics and to the more advanced users of other statistical software, who find that they have to work initially with SAS, until they can convert their data to statistical software of their choice.