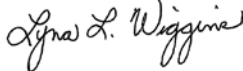


**To:** Incoming MCRP Students   
**From:** Lyna Wiggins, Program Director, MCRP  
**Date:** June 2018  
**Re:** Methods Placement Examinations in the Fall

Welcome to Rutgers' Urban Planning and Policy Development program! We look forward to meeting you. This is a memo to acquaint you with the methods placement process that will take place the last week of August and the first week of the fall semester.

All MCRP students must either take Basic Quantitative Methods (34:970:515) or place out of it. Placing out allows you to move directly to more advanced methods courses. Three methods courses are required for the MCRP degree, including 515 (or place out) and 34:970:516 (Planning Methods), plus one Methods elective. A flow chart showing all of the Bloustein methods courses is available for your course planning.

If you have not had a course in applied descriptive and inferential statistics before, then you should plan to take Basic Quantitative Methods (34:970:515). However, if you already know the material, you may place out of this course by examination. This fall, the exam is administered twice: Friday afternoon, August 31 (at the end of the optional one-week Methods bootcamp) and Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, from 4 to 6 in Room 369. It is not necessary to sign up for this exam in advance.

Topics on the exam include: measures of central tendency (mean, median, mode) and dispersion (range, variance, standard deviation), histograms and other graphical techniques, normal curve, sampling distributions, parameter estimation, hypothesis testing (one and two sample statistical tests, Chi-square test, Analysis of Variance), measures of association, and simple and multiple regression.

We encourage you to take the placement exam even if you feel that you are a borderline case—perhaps you took statistics a long time ago and have forgotten most of it. You cannot fail this exam because it is merely for diagnostic purposes; it does not show up on any university transcript. The worst that may happen is that you end up taking Basic Quantitative Methods after all. This year we are offering (for the first time) an optional one-week Methods bootcamp, the week before the semester starts (August 27-31). You will receive separate information about this opportunity. If you cannot attend the bootcamp and you previously completed a statistics course, review your notes this summer, so that you will be ready to take the placement exam when you arrive. You might also consider visiting the web site developed at Rice University (<http://onlinestatbook.com/rvls.html>) which offers an excellent review of statistics.

We are proud that Bloustein offers extensive courses in Methods and that we are well known for our excellence in this area. The faculty teaching Methods courses looks forward to meeting you!