

UKMOD Training course

12-13 May 2025

Teaching team: Matteo Richiardi and Justin Van De Ven

UKMOD Model and Data

- Download and install the model following the instructions here: <https://www.microsimulation.ac.uk/ukmod/access>. You can also request UKMOD input datasets via the same webpage if you wish. In the training we will use training data supplied with the public-access version of the model.
- Please email iser-ukmod@essex.ac.uk with any problems you encounter and we will try to help.

Join the meeting via Zoom

- Click on the Zoom link which will be sent a few days ahead of the course.
- If you have problems, please email iser-ukmod@essex.ac.uk and we will try to help.
- Course timetable is in GMT (UK time).

During the course

- You will be muted upon joining the meeting.
- Feel free to unmute yourself when you want to speak/ask a question, raise a hand or write in the chat.
- The course is organised as a mixture of lectures and hands-on exercises. We will be showing you a step-by-step solution for each exercise.
- Each session includes time for questions as well as a dedicated Q&A session.
- We would welcome your feedback on what went well and not-so-well throughout and following the programme.

Course Programme

Day 1 – Monday 12 May 2025

(UK Time)	Topic
9.45 – 10.00	Dial-in
10.00 – 11.00	Session 1 • Introduction: static tax-benefit models, distributional analysis and the UKMOD project
11.00 – 11.10	Break
11.10 – 12.00	Session 2 • How UKMOD works • Exercise 1: Running the model and using the <i>Statistics Presenter</i>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch break
13.00 – 14.00	Session 3 • EUROMOD tax-benefit microsimulation language • Exercise 2: Implementing a reform and analysis using the <i>Statistics Presenter</i>
14.00 – 14.10	Break
14.10 – 15.30	Session 4 • The policy spine • The policy functions <i>Elig</i> & <i>ArithOp</i> and the parameters <i>amounts</i>, <i>formula</i>, <i>queries</i> • Exercise 3: Implementing a reform using <i>Elig</i> & <i>ArithOp</i>
15.30 – 15.40	Break
15.40 – 16.40	Session 5 • Handling errors • Types of function • The policy function <i>BenCalc</i> • Exercise 4: Implementing a reform using <i>BenCalc</i>
16.40 – 17.00	• Q&A
17.00	End of Day 1

Day 2 – Tuesday 13 May 2025

(UK Time)	Topic
9.45 – 10.00	Dial-in
10.00 – 11.00	Session 6 • Re-cap of Day 2 (functions <i>Elig</i>, <i>ArithOp</i> and <i>BenCalc</i>) • The policy function <i>SchedCalc</i> • The system functions <i>DefConst</i> & <i>DefIL</i>
11.00-11.10	Break
11.10 – 12.30	Session 7 • Exercise 5: Modifying income tax using <i>SchedCalc</i> and <i>DefConst</i> • Exercise 6: Modifying the benefit cap using <i>DefIL</i>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch break
13.30 – 15.00	Session 8 • The policy function <i>Allocate</i> • Assessment units and the system function <i>DefTU</i> • Exercise 7: Modifying the benefit unit using <i>DefTU</i>
15.00 – 15.15	Break
15.15 – 16.30	Session 9 • Adding variables and system function <i>DefVar</i> • System function <i>SetDefault</i> • Uprating indices and the system function <i>Uprate</i> • System function <i>DefOutput</i>
16.30-17.00	• Q&A
17.00	End of Day 2