EASTBIO funds a total of 5 places on the online [Learn to Discover - Training in Data Science & Machine Learning for Health, Disease and Bioscience](https://learntodiscover.ai/), and 5 places on the [SysMIC course - Module 1 – Introduction to Quantitative Skills for Bioscience](https://sysmic.ac.uk/course-details/), open to EASTBIO first-year students on a competitive basis – total worth of award ~10,000. Please fill in the form below after discussing the course benefits for your research project & personal development with your supervisor/s. Your supervisor must support this application (see Section B below). We also encourage you to speak to EASTBIO students who have previously completed the SysMIC course, of similar time investment – contact details available on request (email [enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk)).

**Course options information**

Due to the early registration date of the 5 October 2023, we ask our new students to consider this opportunity before our Induction Day.

Find below a short comparison between the two courses:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **L2D** | **SysMIC** |
| **Topics** | Basic Python, Data Handling, Machine Learning, Networks (optional extra) | Intro to coding (MATLAB/R/Python), Networks, Modelling Systems, Statistics |
| **Languages covered** | Python including training in numpy, PANDAS and scikit-learn | MATLAB, Python, R |
| **Format and Schedule** | Remote learning via textbook, video tutorials and webinars, 3 hours per week over a 7-month period (starts in October / April) | Remote learning via textbook and assignments, self-paced with 12 sessions over a 9-month period (starts in November / May), assessed by student project |

L2D course video [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbX-EizFzWI).

If you are interested in applying for the SysMIC course, we encourage applicants to contact EASTBIO students who have already completed the course for additional feedback. Email [enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk) to request contact details available on request.

**Deadline**: 17:00 on the 25 September 2023 (notification of outcome by the 2 October; course registration on the 5 October)

**Further queries**: email [enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk)

**Section A** (to be filled in by the student)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Full Name:** |  | |
| **Affiliation:** |  | |
| **Priority (thematic) area:** |  | |
| **Course you are applying for: (a) Learn to Discover or (b) SysMIC** |  | |
| **If applying for the L2D course, please provide your Github handle and email associated with this**.  If you do not have an account, you will be asked to create one as L2D runs on Github. |  | |
| **Personal statement:**  To allow us to review applications, please explain why you want to take this training by providing some details about how it fits with your project and research requirements, how you think it will benefit your skills development as a researcher by upscaling your existing research skills, future plans, potential collaborations, etc. | | |
|  | | |
| **To conclude your application, please read carefully the statement that follows, sign and enter the date.**  “*By signing and submitting this application I agree that, should I accept the offer of a place on the course, I will undertake to complete the funded course within one year from the start of my PhD, i.e. the end of September 2024. Should I need an extension, and after discussing with my supervisor I will email* [*enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk*](mailto:enquiries@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk) *to explain the reasons for seeking an extension. Extensions awarded cannot be further than the end of December of 2024. I am aware that failure to complete the course within the deadline specified above, or to request a formal extension as early as possible, may affect my ability to fulfil the EASTBIO training requirements and may also result in a financial penalty equivalent to the course fees £1,000 (withdrawn from the following year’s RTSG)*.” | | |
| **Signature and date** (by the student) | |  |

**Section B** (to be filled in by the applicant’s supervisor)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Supervisor’s full name**: |  | |
| **Brief support statement**:  You may add a short note about why you think that your student will benefit from taking the course, as well as about their ability to undertake and complete the course within the one-year period expected; this will require good time management skills. Please note the significant time commitments involved in completing the course, and encourage your student to make an informed and realistic choice. EASTBIO encourages applicants to speak to EASTBIO students who have previously completed the course and have shared the course information provided by the L2D Team. | | |
|  | | |
| **Supervisor’s signature and date**: | |  |