If you need to analyze data for a thesis, dissertation, or research project, but do not have experience with real-world data or statistical software, free workshops are available to help you get started. For an introduction to, or review of, the fundamentals of data analysis, consider attending the CSCU hands-on Basic Data Analysis workshop, which is offered several times each semester. If you need to learn SAS, you may be interested in the "Getting Started with SAS" workshop offered by the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER). The CSCU will hold its two-day Basic Data Analysis workshop on October 20 and 22 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., again on November 12 and 13 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and again on January 15 and 16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. This workshop covers how to organize, enter into a computer, clean, transform, explore, and graph data. Participants will be introduced to several different software packages. While much of the hands-on practice will use Minitab or SPSS for Windows 95, the focus is on sound data analysis practices that can be implemented in any statistical software package. This workshop may be especially useful for undergraduate students doing research or for graduate students who have little or no experience with data analysis. Contact Francoise Vermeylen at fmv1@cornell.edu for more information or to register for the workshop.

CISER's "Getting Started with SAS" workshop is one of a series of hands-on computing workshops being offered by CISER this year. This particular workshop will be held on October 27 from 2:30-5:00 and again on October 28 from 9:30-12:00. The workshop is designed for new or beginner level SAS users who wish to use pre-existing data files. The workshop will cover basic SAS commands for reading and manipulating raw data files, creating SAS datasets, recoding data, and performing simple descriptive statistics. They will also briefly introduce users to PC-SAS, using SAS on Gaea (CISER's server, a UNIX operating system), and making connections to Gaea with SAS/CONNECT. More information and a registration form are available on the CISER web page at http://www.ciser.cornell.edu.

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