

Below is the content of an email sent to students on the “interested in Data Science” email list. If you are not on this list and would like to be added please email [dsmajor@stat.wisc.edu](mailto:dsmajor@stat.wisc.edu)

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March 27, 2020

Hi Students Potentially Interested in the Data Science Major:

Fall 2020 enrollment will begin soon and you should be getting your enrollment appointment time in the next few days. Here are a few notes regarding courses for those interested in the Data Science major.

*First, Summer 2020 courses...* There is information regarding Summer 2020 courses available on the DS major info webpage: <https://stat.wisc.edu/undergraduate-data-science-studies/>. Additionally, a version of this email will be published on this page shortly.

### **Fall 2020 courses**

Here are some of the foundational courses being offered this fall for the Data Science major

- STAT 240 Introduction to Data Modeling I
- COMP SCI 220 Data Programming I
- COMP SCI 320 Data Programming II
- L I S (Library and Information Studies) 461 Data and Algorithms: Ethics and Policy (this is a humanities class!)
  - Lecture 001 appears to be the Comm B section
  - Lecture 002 appears to **not be** a Comm B section

STAT 340 Introduction to Data Modeling II will not be taught until Spring 2021.

Other courses to consider for the major at this point include math courses

- MATH 221 Calculus and Analytic Geometry 1 (MATH 171/217 will also suffice in place of MATH 221, MATH 211 **will not**)
- MATH 222 Calculus and Analytic Geometry 2
- A linear algebra course such as MATH 320 Linear Algebra and Differential Equations, MATH 340 Elementary Matrix and Linear Algebra, or MATH 341 Linear Algebra

On June 1, 2020 the Guide (<https://guide.wisc.edu/>) for the 2020/2021 academic year will be published. This version of the Guide will include the full Data Science curriculum and a model 4-year plan. We also anticipate that a what-if DS DARS for students to run will be available around the same time. Until this is published we are not providing additional information regarding the Data Science Electives. This may mean that if you are at the point of taking Data Science Electives (other than linear algebra) then you may need to make enrollment changes after June 1.

While we don't have the model 4-year plan yet, we can share that it is expected that students generally follow this plan

- By the end of your second year students should have completed the following 6 classes
  - STAT 240
  - STAT 340
  - COMP SCI 220
  - COMP SCI 320

- MATH 221
- MATH 222
- They that will give students two years to finish the final 7 courses of the curriculum
  - L I S 461
  - Linear algebra
  - Advanced computing
  - Statistical modeling
  - Machine learning
  - 2 additional Data Science electives

Obviously, this is not the schedule that everyone will follow, but is provided to give some context. If you would like a personalized plan, please email me and I am happy to draft one for you outlining the Data Science major courses. If you have more complicated questions, feel free to make a phone or Teams appointment using my Starfish link below in my signature or from the webpage.

### **Enrollment holds**

Please take a few minutes to make sure that you have resolved any holds on your record, these can prevent you from enrolling in your fall courses. Here is a website with more information on how to do this:

<https://kb.wisc.edu/helpdesk/page.php?id=4139>.

### **Data Science major declaration**

Once a process for declaring the Data Science major is ready, an email will be sent to this list and information posted on our webpage.

### **Data Science certificate**

As of right now there is not a Data Science certificate available. We are in the processing of planning one, but the soonest it could be available is Fall 2021. Students who are interested in Data Science, but not interested in the full major are encouraged to take the foundational Data Science courses that are of interest to gain important skills.

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Schedule an appointment through [Starfish](#)