

Spring 2025 Enrollment Information for Data Science Certificate



Please carefully read this entire email for Spring 2025 enrollment information.

Remember a certificate is meant to complement your major. We recommend Data Science certificates enroll in only **1-2 data science/coding/quantitative courses per fall/spring semester**. If you are in a STEM/quantitative major, a maximum of **three** quantitative/coding/STEM courses per semester is our recommendation.

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IMPORTANT DATES (<https://registrar.wisc.edu/dates/>)

- **October 18** – Spring 2025 courses available on Course Search & Enroll
- **Week of November 4** – Spring term enrollment appointment times assigned to students throughout this week (check your MyUW Student Center and @wisc.edu email inbox).
- **Week of November 11** - Students begin enrolling for Spring 2025 term courses according to appointment times.

ADVISING AVAILABILITY

Minimal & Quick Questions – Email dscert@stat.wisc.edu or attend Zoom Drop-Ins

Zoom drop-in advising is [every Thursday from 2-3 PM](#). No drop-ins on Thursday, November 28 in observance of Thanksgiving holiday.

Complex Questions – Schedule a Starfish Appointment

Individual one-on-one appointments are preferred for complex questions, unique situations, or discussing course plans **BEYOND** the spring 2025 semester. Advising is unavailable November 28 & 29 for Thanksgiving Break.

If you have issues preventing you from enrolling at your enrollment time (either technical or personal), please email dscert@stat.wisc.edu.

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If you wish to switch to the Data Science major, please meet with a [DS major advisor](#).

Please see the following links if you have further questions.

- STAT course enrollment FAQ: <https://stat.wisc.edu/courses-and-enrollment/>
 - COMP SCI course enrollment FAQ: <https://www.cs.wisc.edu/courses-2/>
 - How to run a DARS report: <https://registrar.wisc.edu/dars-student/>
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ENROLLMENT HOLDS

Please check your Student Center frequently between now and your enrollment time to confirm that you do not have any holds that will impact your spring enrollment. Step-by-step instructions are available at: <https://kb.wisc.edu/registrar/4139>.

PRIORITY ENROLLMENT

Some advanced courses will give priority enrollment for declared Data Science certificate students. These courses include L I S 461, COMP SCI 320, STAT 340, STAT 405, and STAT 436. Please see the **course notes** section in [Course Search & Enroll](#) to find out if individual courses have priority enrollment access.

Priority enrollment **does not guarantee** access into certificate courses, but will allow declared DS students access to enroll before non-declared students.

CERTIFICATE COURSE SELECTION TIPS

[Click here to view the full curriculum](#). As always, plan back up classes in case your first-choice class is already filled by your enrollment time.

Discontinued Courses

We have received notice from respective departments that **BIOCHEM 570** Computational Modeling of Biological Systems and **FINANCE 310** Data Analytics for Finance will no longer be offered.

Tips on Selecting Foundation Courses

- **L I S 461**
 - **THREE** of the five available sections are open to declared Data Science certificate students. Ensure you are enrolled in the correct section; you cannot switch between the 3 and 4 credit versions after enrollment.
 - **Lec 001 is the ComB section** (4 credit course with lecture & discussion that counts for Communication B and Humanities).
 - **Lec 002 and 003 are the non-ComB sections** (3 credit course with lecture only that counts for Humanities).
 - Data Science Certificate students **cannot** enroll in these sections and will receive error messages if you attempt to enroll. **Lec 004 section** is restricted to M.S. Information Science students and **Lec 005 section** is restricted to Information & Data Science major students.

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- **COMP SCI 220 vs 320**
 - Have COMP SCI 300 completion? Take COMP SCI 320.
 - Nervous about the transition from Java to Python? Enroll in **COMP SCI 368 Lec 001 Python for Java Programmers** (1 credit) alongside COMP SCI 320.
 - No or minimal programming experience? Take COMP SCI 220.
- **E C E 204**
 - There are **TWO** available lecture sections. Enroll in the section based on your academic standing (number of earned degree credits at time of enrollment).
 - **Lec 001** is for students with freshmen, sophomore, or junior standing (**85 cumulative credits or less**)
 - **Lec 002** is for students with senior standing (**more than 86 cumulative credits**).
 - Students who have MATH 211 or 221 should be able to enroll without issues.
- **STAT 240**
 - Seats will slowly be added during the senior and junior enrollment periods. Please enroll in your preferred section at your enrollment time. If your preferred section is full, check again the next day to see if more seats have been added.
 - Once all seats have been added to these courses, a waitlist will go into effect. You will then be welcome to waitlist for a seat and see if space becomes available.

Tips on Selecting Elective Courses

- The following are typically spring only courses – BIOCORE 384, GEOG 573, PHYSICS 361, SOC 362, STAT 405, and LSC 460.
- **GEOG 573** is the only geography course open to undergraduates in spring 2025. GEOG 378, 574, and 579 are restricted to graduate students in the GIS Professional Program.
- **Business courses** (i.e. GEN BUS 307, 656, and INFO SYS 322) are open only to Business declared students. Non-business students may enroll after Dec 8 at 8 AM central time.
- **LSC 460** gives priority access to declared LSC majors and/or Science Communication certificate students.
- **L I S** courses are restricted to Information Science major students for the first month of enrollment.
- **I S Y E 521** is restricted to online MS students.
- **SOC 351** is only offered once a year and is planned for spring 2025.

NEW CERTIFICATE COURSES

This section was updated on 12.9.24.

The following courses will not appear in Guide or DARS until Fall 2025. Students who enroll in these courses prior to Fall 2025 will have a DARS exception added to their record after the spring course drop notation deadline.

Please read course requisites carefully (both at the course level and section level) in [Course Search & Enroll](#) to check enrollment eligibility as some courses are restricted to specific student populations.

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DARS exceptions will only be submitted for students who have not yet completed their minimum required six elective credits.

Fundamental Electives

- ACT SCI 654 Regression & Time Series for Actuaries ^
- ACT SCI 655 Health Analytics
- ACT SCI 657 Risk Analytics ^
- BSE 405 Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture ^
- CHEM 361 Machine Learning in Chemistry ^
- CIV ENGR 516 Hydrologic Data Analysis (*added 12.9.24*)
- COMP SCI 568 Deep Learning for Computer Vision (*added 12.9.24*)
- COMP SCI 639 Lec 001 Data Mgmt for Data Science ^
- FW ECOL 395 Data and GIS Tools for Ecology ^
- FW ECOL 458 Environmental Data Science ^
- GEOG 560 Advanced Quantitative Methods
- INFO SYS 423 Digital Platform Analytics ^
- MATH 616 Data-Driven Dynamical Systems, Stochastic Modeling and Prediction

Domain Electives

- COMP SCI 541 Theory & Algorithms for Data Science ^
- L I S 407 Data Storytelling with Visualization ^
- SOC 365 Data Management for Social Sciences ^

Courses with a ^ will be offered in spring 2025.

ACTION ITEMS FOR SPRING 2025 GRADUATES

Apply for Graduation

If you are planning to graduate in spring 2025, you MUST apply for graduation after enrolling in your courses. [Please click here for a step-by-step guide on how to apply.](#)

Additional links regarding graduation

- Office of the Registrar's diploma information page: <https://registrar.wisc.edu/diploma/>
- What appears on your transcript: <https://kb.wisc.edu/registrar/page.php?id=96537>
- Commencement: <https://commencement.wisc.edu/>

What if I do not see Data Science certificate on my graduation application?

Your application will only list your degree and/or major. It is normal to not see Data Science certificate on your application; you do not need to take any extra steps. Your application applies to all your declared majors and certificates.