

Fall 2025 Enrollment Information for Data Science Certificate



Please carefully read this entire email for Fall 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/>)

- **March 12** – Fall 2025 courses available on Course Search & Enroll
- **Week of March 31** – Fall 2025 term enrollment appointment times assigned to students throughout this week (check your MyUW Student Center and @wisc.edu email inbox).
- **Week of April 7** - Students begin enrolling for Fall 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 available April 2-30 on [every Wednesday from 1-2 PM](#).

Complex Questions – Schedule a Starfish Appointment

Individual one-on-one appointments are preferred for complex questions, unique situations, or discussing course plans **BEYOND** the fall 2025 semester.

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

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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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 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, 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

The following courses are no longer offered from their respective departments.

- **BIOCHEM 570** Computational Modeling of Biological Systems
- **FINANCE 310** Data Analytics for Finance

Course Removed from DS Cert curriculum

Effective Fall 2025, **GEN BUS 656** Machine Learning for Business Analytics will no longer count as a Data Science certificate elective. Due to the course content changes, the Data Science Programs Committee have determined that this course is not sufficient enough as a certificate elective. This will NOT impact any students who have previously taken the course or are enrolled this spring 2025 semester.

Tips on Selecting Foundation Courses

- **L I S 461**
 - **Only Lectures 001, 002, and 004 are open to Data Science certificate students.** Lec 003 is restricted to M.S. Information Science students (no exceptions).
 - Ensure you enroll in the correct section; you cannot switch between the 3 and 4 credit versions after enrollment.

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- **Lec 001 is the ComB section** (4 credit course with lecture & discussion that counts for Communication B and Humanities).
- **Lec 002 and 004 are the non-ComB sections** (3 credit course with lecture only that counts for Humanities).
- **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**
 - Enroll in the section based on your **academic standing** (number of degree credits earned 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

- **Geography course sections** noted as “Lec 001” are open to undergraduate students and “Lec 070” are restricted to graduate students GIS Professional Program. For the fall 2025 term, undergraduates can enroll in **GEOG 378, 560, and 579**.
- **Business courses** (i.e. INFO SYS 322) are restricted to Business declared students (excluding Certificate in Entrepreneurship, Certificate in Consulting, and Summer Certificate in Business Fundamentals) until May 1 at 8 AM central time.
- **L I S** courses are restricted to Information Science major students until April 22 at 12pm.

NEW CERTIFICATE COURSES

The following courses will be effective in Guide and DARS in Fall 2025. 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.

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

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- COMP SCI 568 Deep Learning for Computer Vision
- 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
- **Added 4.2.25** - STAT 479 Lec 003 Topological Data Analysis ^

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
- **Added 4.2.25** - STAT 479 Lec 001 Sports Analytics ^

Courses with a ^ will be offered in fall 2025.

Added 4.2.25 STAT 479 topics courses will not appear in Guide at all. Students who take Sports Analytics or Topological Data Analysis will have a DARS exception added to their record after the [course drop deadline \(Sept. 12th\)](#).

ACTION ITEMS FOR FALL 2025 GRADUATES

Apply for Graduation

If you are planning to graduate in Fall 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?

The Apply for Graduation portal will only display a student's degree (and/or affiliated major). Your graduation application applies to all your declared majors and certificates; no additional steps are necessary.