From: Dana Maltby
To: "ds_ugcert@g-groups.wisc.edu"
Subject: Data Science Certificate: Spring 2027 Enrollment Information Newsletter
Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 8:13:00 AM
Importance: High



Please carefully read this entire email for Spring 2027 enrollment information.

Remember a certificate is meant to complement your major. We recommend Data Science certificate students 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 (View dates & deadlines here)

- **October 14** – Spring 2027 courses available on Course Search & Enroll
- **Week of November 2** – Spring 2027 term enrollment appointment times assigned to students throughout this week (check your MyUW Student Center and @wisc.edu email inbox).
- **Week of November 9** - Students begin enrolling for Spring 2027 term courses according to assigned appointment times.

ADVISING AVAILABILITY

Minimal & Quick Questions – Email dscert@stat.wisc.edu **or attend Zoom Drop-Ins**
Zoom drop-in advising is every Wednesday from 1-2 PM. *No drop-ins on Nov 25.*

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 2027 semester. Advising is unavailable November 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving Break.

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.

- Statistics course enrollment FAQ
- Computer Science course enrollment FAQ
- How to run a DARS report

ENROLLMENT HOLDS & PRE-ENROLLMENT CHECKLIST

Please check your Student Center to check for any holds or tasks that will impact your enrollment.

- Viewing your Holds
- Pre-Enrollment Checklist

PRIORITY ENROLLMENT & ENROLLMENT RESTRICTIONS

Always review the **subject notes and course notes** section in Course Search & Enroll to find out if individual courses have priority enrollment access or enrollment restrictions.

Priority Enrollment

- Some Data Science Certificate courses will give priority enrollment for **declared DS certificate students.** It will be noted in Course Search & Enroll as "Data Science Certificate" or "Certificate in Data Science".
- Priority enrollment **does not guarantee** access into certificate courses but will allow declared DS certificate students to enroll before non-declared students.
- Several courses include L I S 461, 462, COMP SCI 320, 544, STAT 340, 405, 436, and other elective courses.

Enrollment Restrictions

- Some Data Science Certificate courses may not allow undergraduate students to enroll in certain semesters. This is entirely up to the department that is offering the course; we cannot override their restrictions.
- Check each section: often, certain sections are reserved for specific student groups.
    - **Example**: most STAT elective courses reserve **LEC 001 for undergraduate students** and LEC 002 for graduate students.

CERTIFICATE COURSE CHANGES

- **No future offerings of E C E 204 and 570**
  - The Electrical & Computer Engineering Department will no longer teach E C E 204 and 570. Students should not plan on taking these courses.

- **Removal of ED PSYCH 551 from DS cert curriculum**
  - Due to curriculum changes, **ED PSYCH 551 is no longer approved** as a Data Science certificate fundamental elective, effective Fall 2027. Students who took ED PSYCH 551 prior to Spring 2027 will still have the course count towards their six required elective credits.

- **L I S 461 & 462 Reminders**
  - L I S 461 is permanently a **3-credit course** (lecture only) and not open to students with credit for L I S 462.
  - L I S 462 is permanently a **4-credit Comm-B** designated course (lecture and discussion) and not open to students with credit for L I S 461.
  - DS advisors can **never** guarantee that students will be able to enroll in a Comm-B ethics class, as this is a highly popular option within a large enrollment program. Continue to plan backup Comm-B courses with your major advisor.
  - **Need another data ethics option? Enroll in PHILOS 244.**

ACTION ITEMS FOR SPRING 2027 GRADUATES

- **Apply for Graduation**
  - If you are planning to graduate in May, you MUST apply for graduation after enrolling in your courses. Follow these Apply for Graduation steps.

- **Additional links regarding graduation**
  - Office of the Registrar's diploma information webpage
  - What appears on your transcript
  - University Commencement
  - College of Letters & Science celebration
  - Department of Statistics graduation celebration

- **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.
