INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Data science combines computational and inferential reasoning to draw conclusions based on data about some aspect of the real world. Data scientists come from all walks of life, all areas of study, and all backgrounds. They share an appreciation for the practical use of mathematical and scientific thinking and the power of computing to understand and solve problems for business, research, and societal impact.

The Division offers a major and minor in Data Science, as well as coursework such as Data 8: Foundations of Data Science, its connector courses, and Data Science modules that are broadly accessible to all students.

I think that the broadest possible set of people in the world need to be owners of the data.

– Statistics Professor Ani Adhikari, Co-Creator of Data 8
**DATA SCIENCE**  
Bachelor of Arts

---

**FIRST YEAR**
- Explore your major
  - Review major and college requirements. Meet with a Data Science major advisor and your college advisor to create a 4-year schedule.  
  - Talk to Data Science peer advisors about life in the major.  
  - Join or form a study group.  
  - Take Data 8.

---

**SECOND YEAR**
- Connect and build community
  - Get involved in mentoring with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.  
  - Find academic support at the Student Learning Center and other tutoring resources.  
  - Check out Data Scholars, a community of underrepresented and nontraditional students in Data Science.  
  - Join a student organization such as those in the Data Science Nexus.  
  - Sign up for the Data Science email list and start attending department events.  
  - Engage in public service and leadership experiences by participating in a Public Service Center Program.

---

**THIRD YEAR**
- Discover your passions
  - Enroll in a connector course to see how Data 8 concepts apply in a variety of academic areas.  
  - Visit the Career Counseling Library to learn more about your academic and professional interests.  
  - Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar, L&S 4, or a student-run DeCal course.  
  - Reflect on successes, setbacks, and lessons learned in your first year.  
  - Take advantage of the free interactive course textbooks for core Data Science courses.  
  - Enroll in a Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.

---

**FOURTH YEAR**
- Engage locally and globally
  - Get involved in Data Scholars or other ways to engage in your classes from the start.  
  - Look into volunteer and student organization opportunities across campus.  
  - Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.  
  - Learn about democratizing data science at Data & Tech for All Week.  
  - Look into student opportunities to get involved in the Data Science Education Program.  
  - Discuss and explore options to study abroad while making degree progress.

---

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**
- The Data Science BA positions students to help inform and develop solutions for a range of pressing challenges, from adapting industry to a new world of data, to amplifying learning in education, to helping communities recover from disaster. Our alumni are employed in a wide variety of roles and industries.

---

**Graduate Programs**
- Computer Science, Masters  
  - Earth and Environmental Science,  
  - Graduate Programs  
  - Technical Staff, Oracle

---

**Jobs and Employers**
- Analytics Intern, Major League Baseball  
  - Applications Engineer, Accenture  
  - Data Analyst, Political Campaign  
  - Data Engineer, Atlassian  
  - Data Analyst, Political Campaign  
  - Applications Engineer, Accenture  
  - Data Engineer, Atlassian

---

**WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?**
- Attend an internship fair and apply for summer internships.  
  - Develop a portfolio that demonstrates your analytical and problem-solving skills.  
  - Conduct informational interviews.  
  - Develop your network. Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.  
  - Attend Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.  
  - Join the Data Science alumni group on LinkedIn.  
  - Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.  
  - Take advantage of Alumni Services.

---

Updated Last: 06.05.23

Examples gathered from LinkedIn and an internal survey of recent Berkeley graduates.