



B degree in Data Science

(BDatSci)



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In 2021, Stellenbosch University will launch a new degree programme in Data Science with a true multi-disciplinary nature.*

BDatSci is a four-year degree programme that will be offered in four faculties, namely the Faculties of Economic and Management Sciences, AgriSciences, Arts and Social Sciences, and Science.

With a degree in Data Science, graduates can put their skills to use to solve real-world problems in fields as diverse as genetics, healthcare, e-commerce, finance, government or retail, to name but a few.

The programme will offer a diverse student cohort the opportunity to gain knowledge of foundational modules in core disciplines such as statistics, computer science and mathematics, and they will also be exposed to new technologies and concepts in the field of data science. Together with this solid foundation, students will choose a focal area within a data-rich environment and this will mean that they obtain the necessary domain knowledge in their chosen field.

This four-year degree is the only one of its kind in South Africa and after completion thereof, graduates will be able to continue with a Masters degree in their chosen field.

The fourth industrial revolution is changing science and industry in substantial ways. Artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning, big data – these concepts are at the core of a discipline called Data Science.

Work across nearly all domains is becoming more data driven, and this continued transformation of work requires a substantial cadre of talented graduates with highly developed data science skills and knowledge.

A qualification in Data Science is therefore highly desirable and could lead to many job opportunities.





CAREER FOCUS

To assist students with a specific career focus, certain module combinations are suggested. BDatSci offers subject combinations for the following focal areas:

- 1. Statistical Learning**
(Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences)
- 2. Computer Science**
(Faculty of Science)
- 3. Analytics and Optimisation**
(Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences)
- 4. Applied Mathematics**
(Faculty of Science)
- 5. Behavioural Economics**
(Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences)
- 6. Statistical Genetics** (*to be confirmed*)
(Faculty of AgriSciences)
- 7. Geoinformatics**
(Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)
- 8. Statistical Physics**
(Faculty of Science)

To see the curricula of the various focal areas, visit www.sun.ac.za/datascience. As the programme evolves due to new directions in Data Science, new focal areas may be added.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

This degree programme is aimed at curious, quantitatively-minded individuals who have a strong mathematical ability and who like solving problems.

The minimum admission requirements for admission to the BDatSci programme are:

BDatSci

NSC average 80% (This average is based on your six best subjects, excluding Life Orientation.)

Mathematics 80%

Home Language 60%

If English is not the home language, English First
Additional Language 75%

Please note:

- Admission requirements may change during the course of a year. For the latest information, consult www.sun.ac.za/datascience.

*Offering this programme in 2021 is subject to external accreditation processes.

For more information, visit:
www.sun.ac.za/datascience



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