CSE 160: Introduction to Data Science

Spring 2024 – Lectures M/W 10:45-11:35am in RBC184
Labs R 9:50-11:05am and 2:05-3:20pm in BC210

Catalog Description
Data Science is an interdisciplinary field focusing on the computational analysis of data to extract knowledge and insight. This course introduces the student to the collection, preparation, analysis, modeling and visualization of data, covering both conceptual and practical issues. Examples from diverse fields will be presented, and hands-on use of statistical and data manipulation software will be included.

Prerequisites: CSE 004, 007 or 012 or BIS 335 or other programming experience (with instr. permission)

Teaching Mode
Depending on the section, MW lectures will be in-person or online (asynchronous) although lectures will be recorded and posted for all. Thursdays will be labs (bring laptops).

Student Learning Outcomes
After taking Introduction to Data Science, you will:

i. Understand the processes of data science: problem identification, data collection, preparation, modeling, evaluation and communication.
ii. Demonstrate data wrangling skills for data acquisition, cleaning, transformation, and preparation for use in a learning system.
iii. Demonstrate skills in data exploration, analysis and modeling.
iv. Demonstrate skills in data presentation, communication, and visualization.
v. Recognize ethical issues that arise in data science tasks.
vi. Perform data analytics and visualization using the R language and its associated libraries.

Contact Information
Prof. Brian D. Davison – http://www.cse.lehigh.edu/~brian/
E-mail: davison@cse.lehigh.edu or bdd3@lehigh.edu

Teaching Assistant: Garrik Hoyt
Grader: Nada Stojanović
Tutoring/Help/Drop-in/Office Hours: to be posted on Piazza

For fastest response, use the Piazza site to post your questions. You should get an answer quickly from the instructor, the course assistant, or another student. Posts can be anonymous or private to the staff.

Topics to be Covered
Introduction to the field of data science; data collection; experimental design; data attributes; data cleaning; data characterization and analysis; data modeling and mining techniques; model evaluation; visualization; applications of data science; R scripting. Along the way we will also discuss aspects of privacy, security and social impacts. The course will also include a number of guest speakers to introduce students to the variety of applications of data science.
Online Resources
Schedule, lectures, notes, homework, projects, grades: [http://coursesite.lehigh.edu/](http://coursesite.lehigh.edu/)
Announcements, discussions: The Piazza plug-in within CourseSite.

Primary Textbook (Required)
Also available free online via the Lehigh library: [https://asa.lib.lehigh.edu/Record/10757826](https://asa.lib.lehigh.edu/Record/10757826) and
[https://asa.lib.lehigh.edu/Record/11169182](https://asa.lib.lehigh.edu/Record/11169182)

Supplementary Online Reference
Explains the rationale and structure of using R as a professional, going far beyond what we do in class.

Academic Honesty
Unless specifically permitted otherwise, the work you submit must be entirely your own. While we encourage you to discuss basic concepts and strategies with friends and classmates, the copying or sharing of solutions, in whole or in part, is never acceptable. Both the person receiving the copied work and the person providing the copied work are equally responsible. Similarly, getting help from others (e.g., ghostwriters) is dishonest. Such cases will be referred to the University Committee on Discipline and, if found guilty, you may be given a failing grade in the course (or worse). If you have questions about this policy at any point throughout the semester, ask. It is far better to be safe than sorry when your academic career may be on the line. See also: [https://provost.lehigh.edu/academic-integrity](https://provost.lehigh.edu/academic-integrity)

Use of external resources (e.g., search engines such as Google, Q&A services and discussion boards like Stack Overflow, LLMs like ChatGPT) are understandable, but should not be necessary (i.e., all methods and information needed should be provided via readings, lectures, exercises, or in your R installation itself). In any case, material acquired this way must still be correct and understood by you when you submit, and you should provide citations to external resources where the information was provided. I reserve the right to ask you to verbally explain any code or answer you have provided if necessary to determine whether the content originated with you (and if not, to initiate a disciplinary process).

Grading
Grades will be a function of participation (5%), homework (25%) and quizzes (10%), collaborative work (10%), two exams (15% each), and a final group project (20%), which are typically submitted via Coursesite. You are responsible for everything that occurs in class as well as assigned readings. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, up to three days late; after that, no credit is possible for submission or resubmission.

Exam dates are announced at the beginning of the semester. Missed exams without a legitimate excuse will result in a score of 0. Up to three absences are excused automatically within the participation grade. If at least 50% of the class completes the end-of-semester course evaluations, I will drop the lowest CW grade. If at least 75%, I’ll also drop the lowest quiz grade. Final letter grades are assigned at the discretion of the instructor (i.e., not always using a fixed metric).

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Lehigh University is committed to maintaining an equitable and inclusive community and welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact Disability Support
Services (DSS), provide documentation, and participate in an interactive review process. If the documentation supports a request for reasonable accommodations, DSS will provide students with a Letter of Accommodations. Students who are approved for accommodations should share this letter and discuss their accommodations and learning needs with instructors as early in the semester as possible. For more information or to request services, please contact Disability Support Services in person in Williams Hall, Suite 301, via phone at 610-758-4152, via email at indss@lehigh.edu, or online at https://studentaffairs.lehigh.edu/disabilities.

**Accommodations for Religious Holidays**
Lehigh has adopted a policy to accommodate those who encounter conflicts between the demands of religious observance and the demands of work or study. This "accommodation policy" acknowledges the right of those who live and work and study at Lehigh to engage in religious observances. If you have an observance that conflicts with a class meeting or assignment, please contact the instructor in advance (ideally a week ahead) to arrange for accommodation.

**Principles of Equitable Community**
Lehigh University endorses *The Principles of our Equitable Community*. We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.

**Lehigh University Policy on Harassment and Non-Discrimination**
Lehigh University upholds The Principles of Our Equitable Community and is committed to providing an educational, working, co-curricular, social, and living environment for all students, staff, faculty, trustees, contract workers, and visitors that is free from harassment and discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital or familial status, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Such harassment or discrimination is unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated. The University strongly encourages (and, depending upon the circumstances, may require) students, faculty, staff or visitors who experience or witness harassment or discrimination, or have information about harassment or discrimination in University programs or activities, to immediately report such conduct.

If you have questions about Lehigh’s Policy on Harassment and Non-Discrimination or need to report harassment or discrimination, contact the Equal Opportunity Compliance Coordinator (Alumni Memorial Building / 610.758.3535 / eocc@lehigh.edu)

**Course Application**
This course is one of many that count toward the Certificate in Business Analytics (for students in CoB) and is required for the Minor in Data Science (available to all undergraduates). It also counts as a Science and Technology course for CS majors (BS degree), and as a CS elective for the CS minor.

Last revised: 21 January 2024