Instructor Kickoff

Welcome to Flatiron School!

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Agenda

- Warm-up & Introductions
- Your Support Team
- Program Tools
- Program Structure & Schedule
- Setting Yourself Up For Success

Warm-up 🔥

- Introduce yourself:
  - Name
  - Pronouns
  - Where you are located
- Share a book, podcast, movie, or TV show you've enjoyed recently.

Your Support Team

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I’m your instructor 👋

What I do:

- Conduct sessions on core curriculum
- Administer and grade assessments
- Deliver feedback on coursework and progress

Daniel Burdeno

He/Him

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Your Support Teams

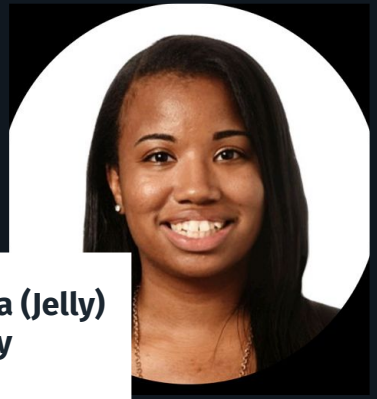
Technical Support:

- **Instructors:** Deliver lectures, conduct assessments, and provide feedback on coursework and progress

Non-Technical Support:

- **Student Advisors:** One-on-one support during your program
- **Career Coaches:** One-on-one support after graduation
- **Community Team:** Slack channels, newsletters, and events to help you connect with others and build your network

The Squad



Angelica (Jelly) Spratley

Daniel Burdeno

Praveen Gowtham

Instructors

- Able to support during specified hours
    - Instructors = Work day
- Exceptions include meetings, supporting events, lunch, and prep time.
- Instructional team will give you constructive feedback on code and professional skills.
    - They will not necessarily hand you the answer - but they'll guide you.

Program Tools

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Discord

Important channels to know:

- #ds-ntl-091624
- #all-about-data
- #announcements
- #events

Reminders:

Update your server profile:

- Photo (optional!)
- First name and last name (please please please)
- Get roles!

Complete your onboarding (visit Server Guide)

Download the desktop app!

Our Code of Conduct applies to Discord. This is a part of our community but we can't be everywhere at once. Please let us know if you're ever uncomfortable with something that was said or the way something was said.

Canvas

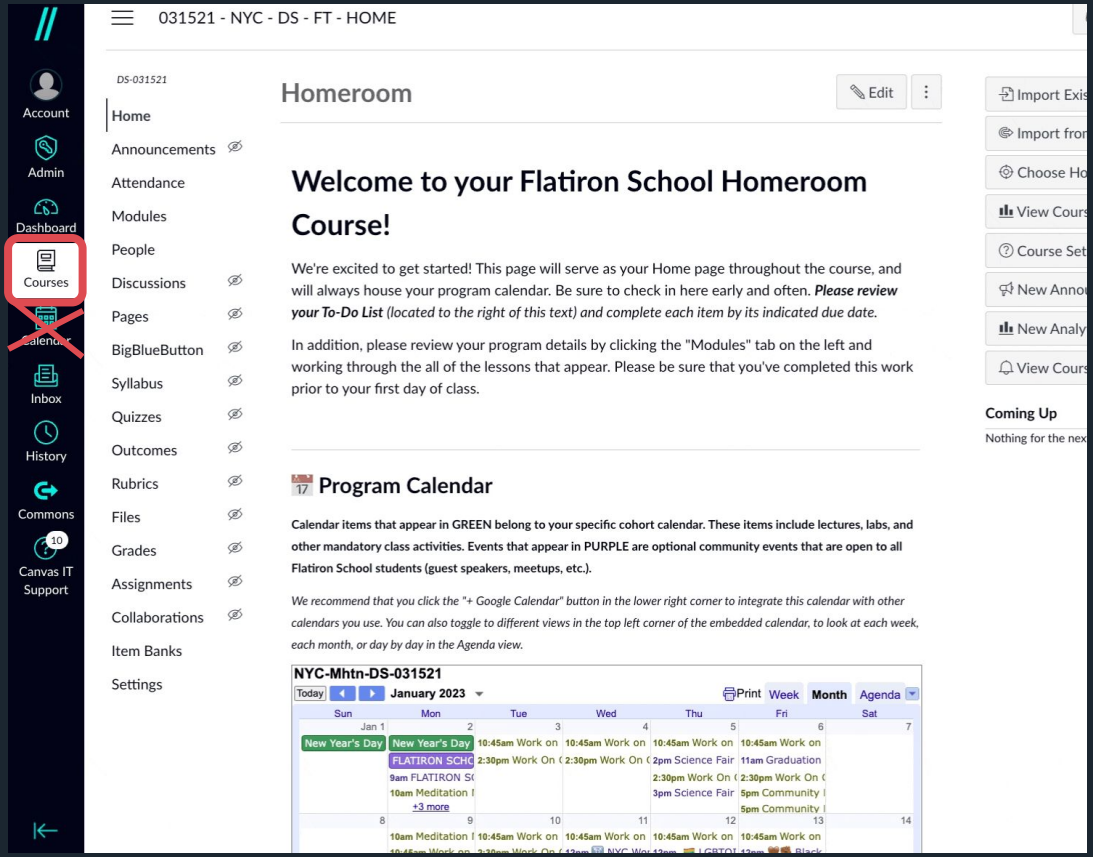
Flatiron School uses Canvas, a learning management system, to deliver our program and technical content.

Homeroom Course

General information, resources, and your calendar

Phase Courses

Lessons, labs, assessments



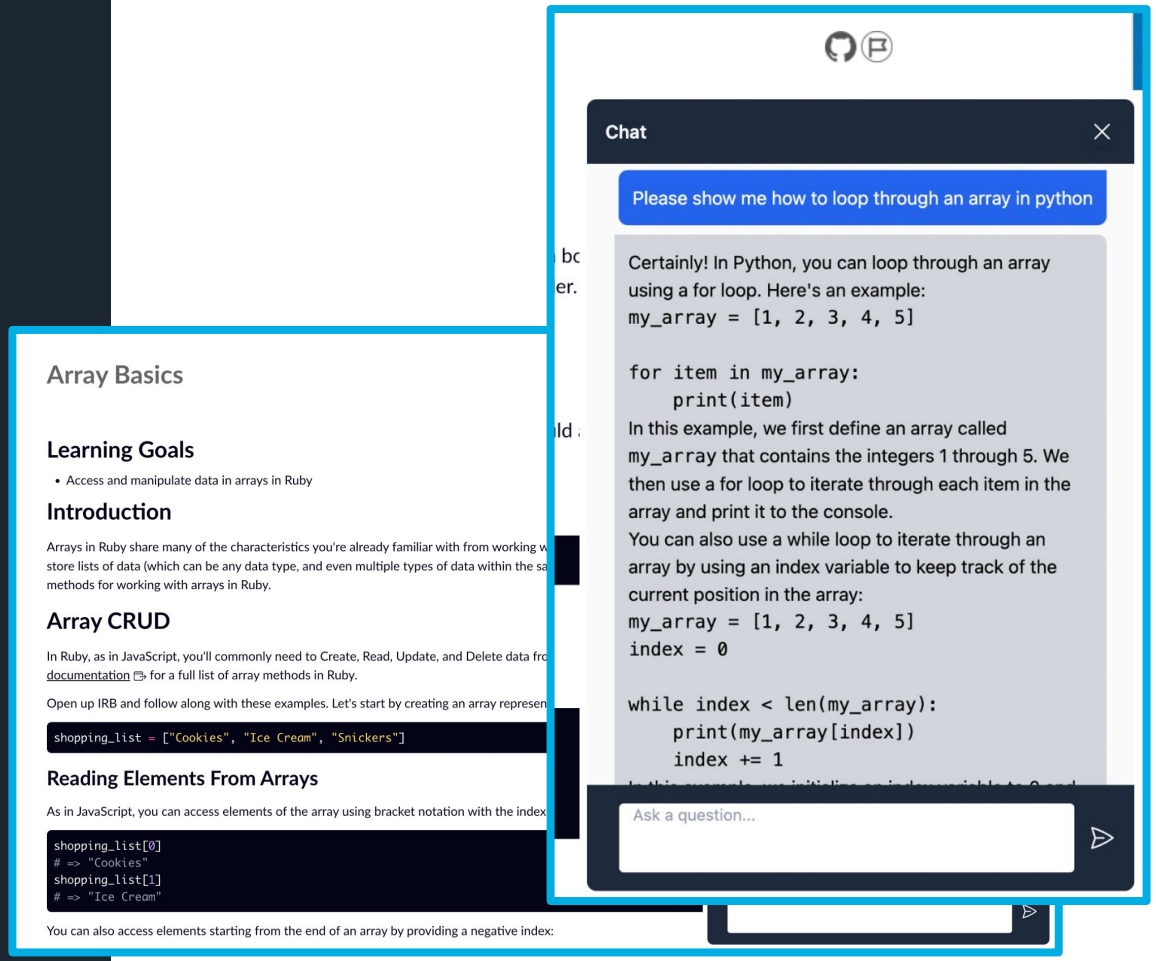
FYI: Here's your calendar!

Ada

Meet our chat bot, powered by OpenAI

- Tailored prompts
- Asks questions and uses analogies, diagrams, code samples
- Guides you toward solution

How? Chat box in Canvas



Program Structure & Schedule

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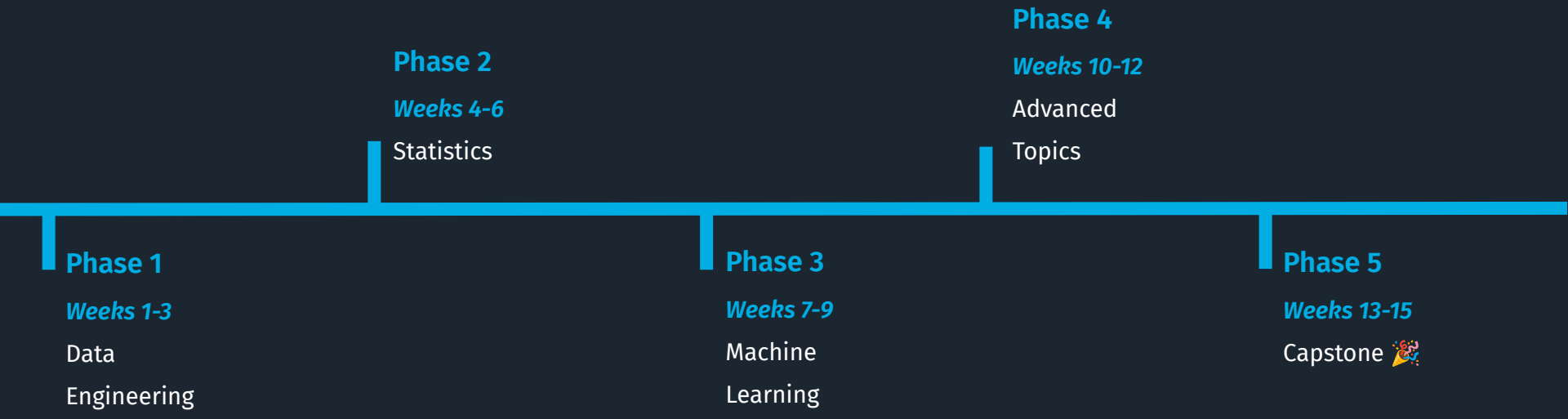
Program Timeline



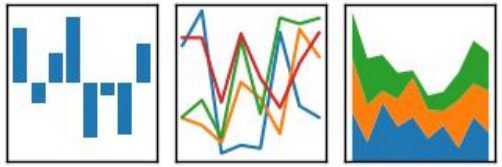
Curriculum Overview

Phase 1

- Coding in Python
- Data Manipulation and Analysis
- Data Gathering

pandas

$$y_{it} = \beta' x_{it} + \mu_i + \epsilon_{it}$$



Curriculum Overview

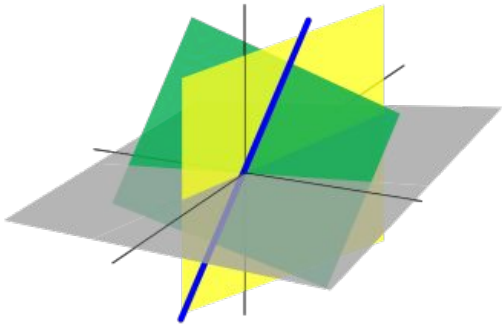
Phase 2

- Coding in SQL
- Statistical Modeling
- Simple Linear Regression

Curriculum Overview

Phase 3

- The Math behind Machine Learning
- Classification Algorithms
- Building Modeling Pipelines



Curriculum Overview

Phase 4

- Recommendation Systems
- Natural Language Processing
- Neural Networks

Curriculum Overview

Phase 5

- Capstone!

The Next 15 Weeks

Lessons and Labs

Learn the fundamentals. **You do NOT need to complete all labs and lessons** - but going through most is essential to passing the code challenges and creating projects.

Quizzes [10% of Grade]

Each phase you will take a few quizzes to check your understanding and ensure your learning in on track! You have two attempts at each quiz.

Code Challenges & Checkpoints [40%]

During each phase, you'll have 2 checkpoints and a code challenge to assess your understanding of the phase. Think of these as your 'tests'.

Projects [50% of Grade]

In week 3 of phase 1-4, you will build a project to practice all of the concepts from the phase and build your portfolio for the job search. Phase 5 consists of 3 weeks to build a cumulative capstone project.

Grading

Checkpoints and the Code Challenge

Checkpoints and the Code Challenge are worth **40%** of the overall grade in a phase.

Quizzes

Quizzes are worth **10%** of the overall grade in a phase.

Projects

Projects are worth about **50%** of the overall grade in a phase.

Passing Each Phase

In order to pass each phase you must **maintain an overall grade of 70% or higher**. You will receive a Satisfactory Academic Progress Form (like a report card) at the midpoint (after phase 3) and the endpoint of your program with your cumulative grade and attendance percentage.

If you do not achieve the required grades you are afforded **one opportunity to retake** a phase / program.

Letter Grade	Range
4.0	100% to 96%
3.7	< 96% to 92%
3.5	< 92% to 89%
3.3	< 89% to 86%
3.0	< 86% to 83%
2.7	< 83% to 80%
2.5	< 80% to 77%
2.3	< 77% to 74%
2.0	< 74% to 70%
1.7	< 70% to 65%
1.5	< 65% to 60%
1.3	< 60% to 55%
1.0	< 55% to 0%

Plagiarism & Cheating

Lessons and Labs

Remember that you're here to learn and while you can use any resource you desire, copy/pasting code doesn't help you prepare for assessments, interviews, or jobs.

Plagiarism

Don't plagiarize! Using another entity's work without attribution is plagiarism! It is okay to 'reuse' code but it needs to cited and understood appropriately.

Code Challenges

Not allowed:

- Messenger apps open
- ChatGPT and other AIs

Projects

Should reflect your own original thought and work. Again, it is okay to 'reuse' code but you must be able to explain what the code is actually doing.

Get your blog on!

- Approximately 5 minute read
- Published online
- Technical or tech related subjects
- Encouraged but not required

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Setting Yourself Up for Success!

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This isn’t like high school or college!

Teaching Methods

- 1:1 instructional sessions
- Office hours
- Lectures (live and recorded)
- Curriculum (lessons and labs)

Student Responsibilities

- Attending and watching Lectures
- Canvas course completion
- Code Challenges
- Projects

Professional Development

- Online branding (LinkedIn)
- Resume and portfolio building
- Networking

Personal Empowerment Protocol:

1. Read the error
2. Google the problem
3. Ask a peer
4. Ask an instructor

- This is an important framework in general for debugging / working through problems.
- Remote learning makes it even more vital!
- Reading errors, looking up problems, and collaborating with peers are essential skills.
- Get practice with them before asking us!

Imposter Syndrome

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Any questions?

For the rest of today...

Now: First Lecture!
- Data Science
- Toolkit

1:00pm ET: Lunch Break

3:00pm ET: Lecture - Introduction to Terminal

5:00pm ET: Program Orientation

6:00pm ET: Stand Down

Get stuck? Post in our cohort Discord channel!