

# Essentials of Data Literacy Syllabus

## Course Description

In this course, you will practice exploring, visualizing, analyzing, and communicating with data, using real datasets and examples that are relevant to a variety of audiences and academic disciplines. Data is part of every field, but not everyone has had the opportunity to gain the skills necessary to find the data they need and use it in ways that add to their work. Whether you are in public health, healthcare, banking, law, education, graduate school, or a variety of other fields, there is a way to understand and make use of related data.

This four-week course will give you the opportunity to build and leverage your data skills for upward mobility at any stage in your career. It will take you through the six steps of the data lifecycle, using different case studies and contexts, and teach you how to analyze, manage, and communicate data, working in R to achieve basic R programming competencies.

## Course Objectives:

1. The six steps of the data lifecycle and how to apply them in R
2. How to manage, analyze, and communicate with data
3. How to be a critical consumer and producer of data visualizations
4. How to market your data skills to potential collaborators and employers

## Course Grading:

4 - End of Week Quizzes = 50%.

5 - Weekly Activities = 50%

**Only verified users** get a grade. To get a verified certificate you need a **final grade of 70%**.

**Discussion Forum Etiquette:** Our course adheres to the same framework as other EDX courses in regards to forums - you can find these at: <https://bit.ly/edxforums>

**Course Requirement:** Windows or MacOS computer. You will need to install R and RStudio.

## Course Expectations:

This is an instructor paced four-week course. We encourage you to use the different discussion forums to get to know other participants and to interact with the course team. If you have general questions and/or issues, please use the general discussion forum. The instructor and teaching assistants cannot respond to all participants, but will be reading the discussion forums and pulling out common ideas and questions. To get the full experience of the course, we expect you to spend **10-20 hours per week** - this does not mean you have to spend this amount of time - it is our suggestion.