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If you are mentoring someone to become a data scientist (using Python) from 0 knowledge, what would the learning path look like?



Sean McClure · January 6, 2020
Founder Kedion, PhD, Builder of AI applications.

UPDATE

I've created a [concept map](#) for all the material covered in this answer:

A learning path is a sequence of courses, projects and reading that help people achieve a working knowledge of a topic. Each of these can be broken out as follows:

Content: What should I learn?

Approach: How should I learn it?

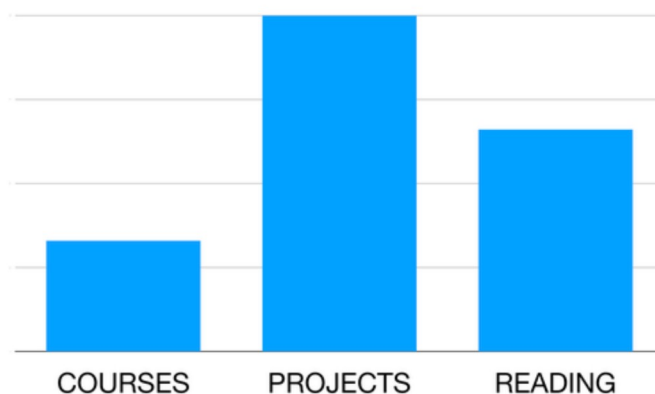
Tracking: How do I know I'm making progress?

Let's begin by looking at what our options are regarding content. Then we'll look at how to use that content inside an effective approach to learning. Finally, I'll show how the student's learning can be assessed by tracking how much content has been assimilated.

CONTENT

Students cannot read and practice all possible resources. Think of this section as an array of options from which the student will pick from in the approach section that follows.

For assimilating content I recommend the following levels of effort:



This breakdown places most effort on projects. This is because there is no substitute for working on real projects when it comes to instilling a working knowledge. Reading helps you stay up-to-date and remain aware of emerging techniques. Courses provide a quick exposure to topics that will be relevant throughout your career.

For courses, a recent [listings](#) shows the following top-rated options:

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