

Units: 4  
Term: Fall 2019  
Time: TBD  
Location: USC HSC, Soto Building  
Instructor: Meredith Franklin  
Office: SSB 202A  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
Contact Info: [meredith.franklin@usc.edu](mailto:meredith.franklin@usc.edu)

### **Course Description**

This course serves as an introduction to data science with focus on the acquisition and analysis of real-life data. Students will learn the toolsets needed to 1) create workable and reproducible datasets by accessing, scraping, sampling and cleaning data; 2) conduct exploratory data analysis and data visualizations; 3) apply statistical tools to learn from data; and 4) build functions and basic apps. Coding languages R and Python will be used.

### **Learning Objectives**

Through this course, students will become familiar with the techniques used in Data Science, applied to health-related datasets. Students will learn:

- Programming in R, Python, and associated tools Markdown, Git
- Data visualization – summarizing data through interpretable summaries
- Data collection – data scraping, wrangling, cleaning, and sampling
- Exploratory data analysis – generating hypotheses and building intuition
- Basic statistical algorithms
- Building software packages and apps

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Recommended Preparation:** Undergraduate course in statistics and programming

### **Course Notes**

Lecture notes presented in class will be posted on Blackboard.

### **Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required**

Computation using R (downloaded from <http://cran.r-project.org>), Python, and development tools including Git (<https://github.com/>) and Markdown will be used throughout the semester.

### **Readings and Supplementary Materials**

- 1) **Mastering Software Development in R**, 2017. Roger Peng, Sean Kross, Brooke Anderson. <https://bookdown.org/rdpeng/RProgDA/>
- 2) **R for Data Science**, 2017 *Garrett Grolemund and Hadley Wickham*. <http://r4ds.had.co.nz/>
- 3) **Doing Data Science**, 2013. Cathy O'Neill and Rachel Schutt. O'Reilly Media.

- 4) **Python Data Science Handbook**, 2018. Jake VanderPlas. O'Reilly Media.  
<https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/>

### Supplementary References

- 1) The Art of R Programming, 2011, Norm Matloff, no starch press.  
<https://nostarch.com/artofr.htm>
- 2) Advanced R, 2014, Hadley Wickham, CRC press. <http://adv-r.had.co.nz/>
- 3) R Packages, 2015, Hadley Wickham, O'Reilly. <http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/>

### Description and Assessment of Assignments

**Assignments:** There will be 6 assignments given throughout the semester, approximately every week. Students may discuss the problems with one another, however, individual solutions must be submitted and copying will not be tolerated. All assignments must be completed in R Markdown, and submitted through the Github classes portal of the course. Late assignments will be penalized by 20% for each day past the due date.

**Exams:** There will be one in-class exam (midterm 2hrs). It will be conducted on your laptop using the tools learned up to that point in the semester.

**Final Project:** The final project will be to develop a reproducible R package, Shiny app, or pipeline for analysis applied to a real-world dataset.

**Labs:** Lab attendance is mandatory and Participation in the lab is required and counts as part of the overall lab grade.

### Grading Breakdown

Assignment	% of Grade
Labs	10%
Homework (6)	30%
In-Class Quizzes (3)	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Project	30%
TOTAL	100%

### Assignment Submission Policy

Assignments shall be submitted on the Github classroom portal of the course. Late homework assignments will not be accepted without penalty, except when verifiable extenuating circumstances can be demonstrated.

**Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown**

	<b>Topics/Weekly Activities</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
<b>Week 1</b> August 26	Introduction to Data Science tools: R, Python, Markdown, Git, command line tools	
<b>Week 2</b> September 2	Labor Day: No class	
<b>Week 3</b> September 9	Exploratory Data Analysis	<b>HW1 Due</b>
<b>Week 4</b> September 16	Data visualization	
<b>Week 5</b> September 23	Data cleaning and wrangling	<b>HW2 Due</b>
<b>Week 6</b> September 30	Data scraping: API	
<b>Week 7</b> October 7	Data scraping: raw data Health data security	<b>HW3 Due</b>
<b>Week 8</b> October 14	Text mining	
<b>Week 9</b> October 21	Midterm Exam (2 hours)	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
<b>Week 10</b> October 28	Basic algorithms: linear regression, k-Means	
<b>Week 11</b> November 4	Interactive visualization and effective data communication	<b>HW4 Due</b>
<b>Week 12</b> November 11	Overview of building R packages and Shiny	
<b>Week 13</b> November 18	Distributed Analytics: scaling up with MapReduce, Spark and Hadoop	<b>HW5 Due</b>
<b>Week 14</b> November 25	Miscellaneous advanced tools and applications (e.g. image recognition, streamed data)	
<b>Week 15</b> December 2	Miscellaneous advanced tools and applications (e.g. social network analysis)	<b>HW6 Due</b>
<b>FINAL</b> December 16	<b>Final Project</b>	<b>Project Due</b>

## Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

### Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” <https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

### Support Systems:

*Student Counseling Services (SCS)* - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/>

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline* - 1-800-273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP)* - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. <https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/>

*Sexual Assault Resource Center*

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: <http://sarc.usc.edu/>

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX compliance* – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. <https://equity.usc.edu/>

*Bias Assessment Response and Support*

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/>

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs*

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. <http://dsp.usc.edu>

*Student Support and Advocacy* – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. <https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/>

*Diversity at USC*

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. <https://diversity.usc.edu/>

*USC Emergency Information*

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, <http://emergency.usc.edu>

*USC Department of Public Safety* – 213-740-4321 (UPC) and 323-442-1000 (HSC) for 24-hour emergency assistance or to report a crime

Provides overall safety to USC community. <http://dps.usc.edu>