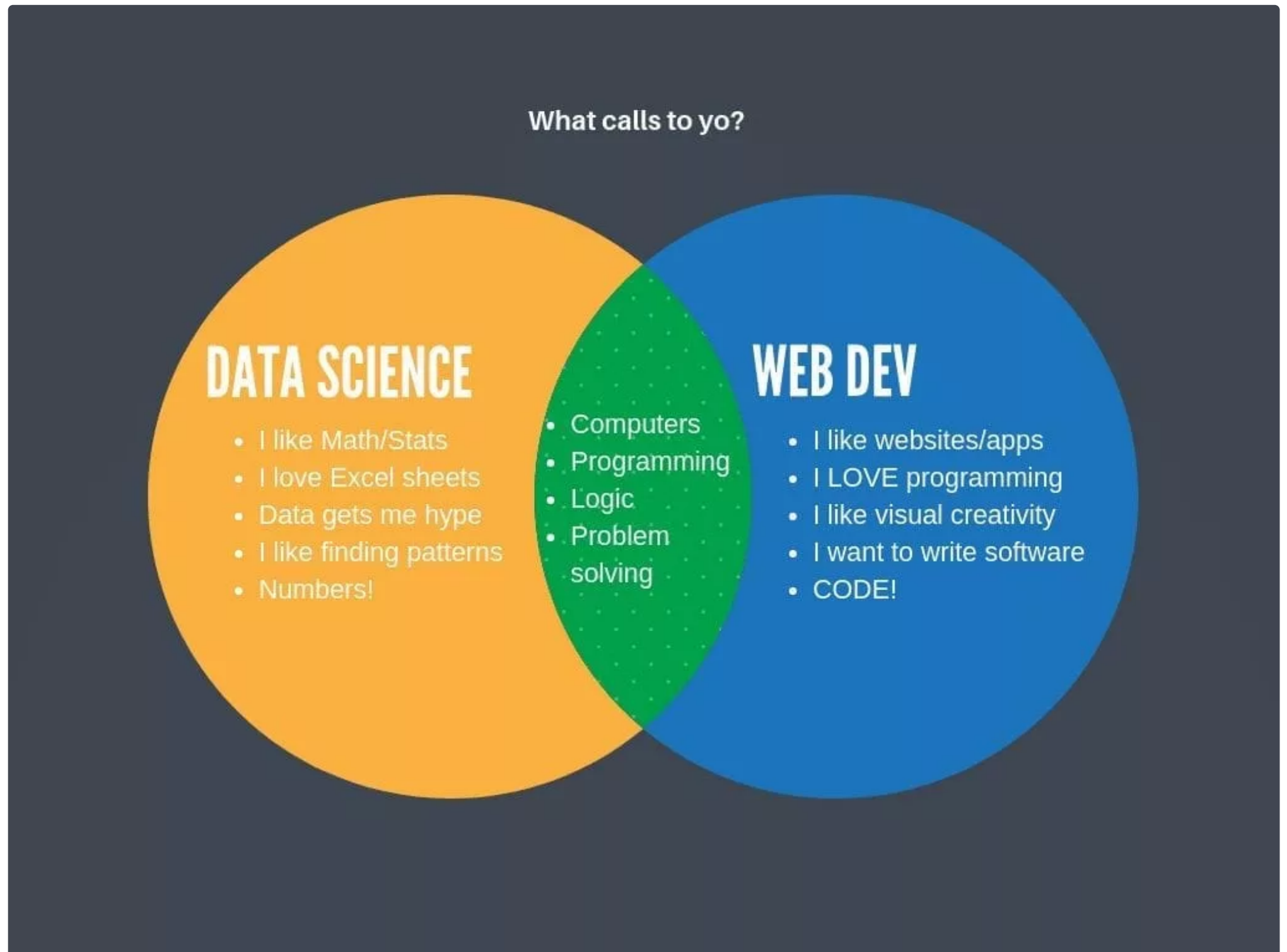




Which Program is Right for Me?

Posted on September 30, 2018 | In [Data Science](#), [Full Stack Web Development](#)



To Web Develop or to Data Science? That is the question.

With our recent program launch, Codeup now offers two technical career tracks: “Full Stack Web Development – Java” and “Data Science.” If you’re a prospective student, you might be wondering which program is right for you! First, we recommend understanding **what data science is** and what **full stack web development is**. Second, ask yourself the following three questions:

PAST: WHAT IS YOUR BACKGROUND?

One key difference between our programs is the prerequisite background knowledge. Our **web development program** doesn’t have any required skills! Some students enter with no tech experience, and others enter with a lot. Having programming experience is always a plus, but not a must. However, Data Science relies on experience in math, statistics, and basic programming for all incoming students. You’ll need concepts like working with matrices, writing Python functions, and solving systems of equations. That means that you either need coursework in those subjects, self-teaching experience, or on the job training.

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programs and which one fits you better *now*. If you don't have any math or programming background, web development may be a better fit. If you have a Math or CS degree, data science may be.

PRESENT: WHAT GETS YOU EXCITED? (WHERE ARE YOU NOW?)

Do numbers get you hyped up? Do you love or hate excel? Do you really like programming? Do massive data sets feel intimidating or exciting? Do you enjoy statistics and math? Do you like being visually creative? Do you want to build web applications? Do you want to focus just on technical work or mix technical and business work?

This list isn't exhaustive, but it should kickstart your thinking to explore your intrinsic interest in the content of our programs. Try to understand what each profession does day to day, and then ask yourself: *which gets me more excited?* And make sure your answer is brutally honest! Our programs have the same structures, and both career paths are in demand with great opportunity. You're in great shape either way, but you'll be much happier with the content that makes you happy.

FUTURE: WHAT JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU WANT DOWN THE LINE?

When you graduate from Codeup, we'll help you land your first job. From the Web Development program, that likely means a job as a software developer, web developer, or programmer. From the Data Science program, that likely means a job as a data scientist, data engineer, or machine learning engineer. But that's just the first job! As you move through your tech career, you'll discover new interests and opportunities, like the following.

Web Development: web developer (alternative titles: web designer, UI/UX designer, front-end developer, front-end engineer, full stack developer, software developer), programming, quality assurance technician, technical sales, product/project manager, etc.

Data Science: data scientist, analysts of all kinds (data, business, risk, fraud, marketing, web, competitive), customer intelligence, business intelligence, data engineer, dashboard/data visualization developer, machine learning engineer, etc.

NOW WHAT?

You now know what data science and full stack web development are. You have compared your background skills with our program prerequisites. You have thought about what content gets you more excited! And lastly, you've considered what future opportunities you'll want to open for yourself.

Did you decide which program is a better fit? Awesome, congrats! Apply now at tribucodeup.wpengine.com/apply.

Still not sure? *Let us help!* Codeup's mission is to help you launch your career, and our staff is dedicated to helping you find your fit. Email us at info@codeup.com or call us at (210) 802-7289 today!

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