Salem
STATE UNIVERSITY

Welcome to CSC 276
Data Science
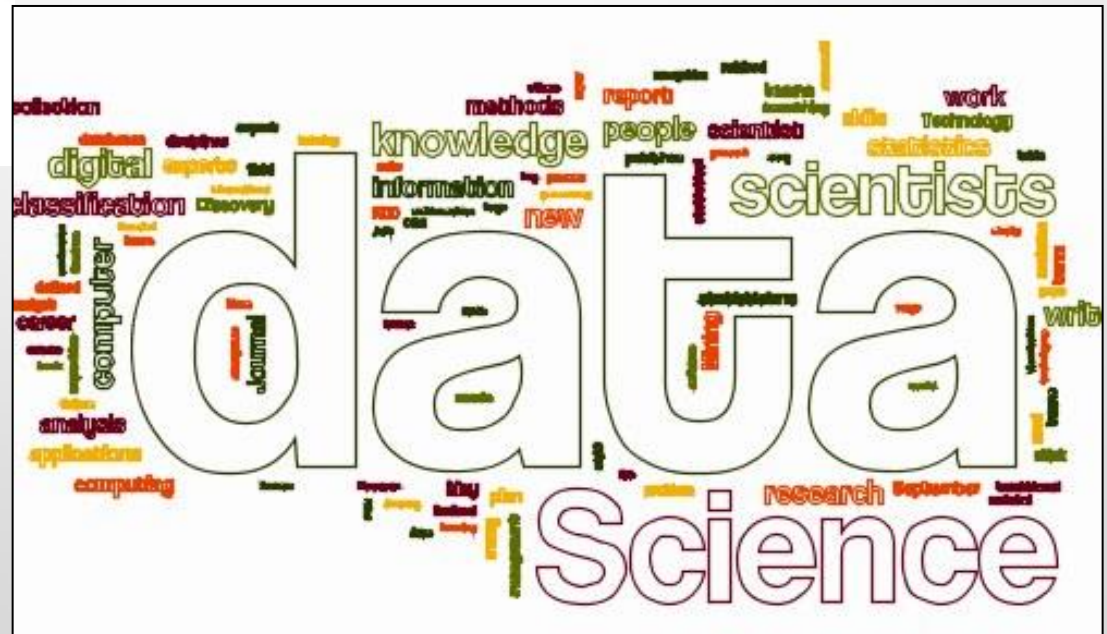
CSC 276: Data Science
Lecture #1
Introduction

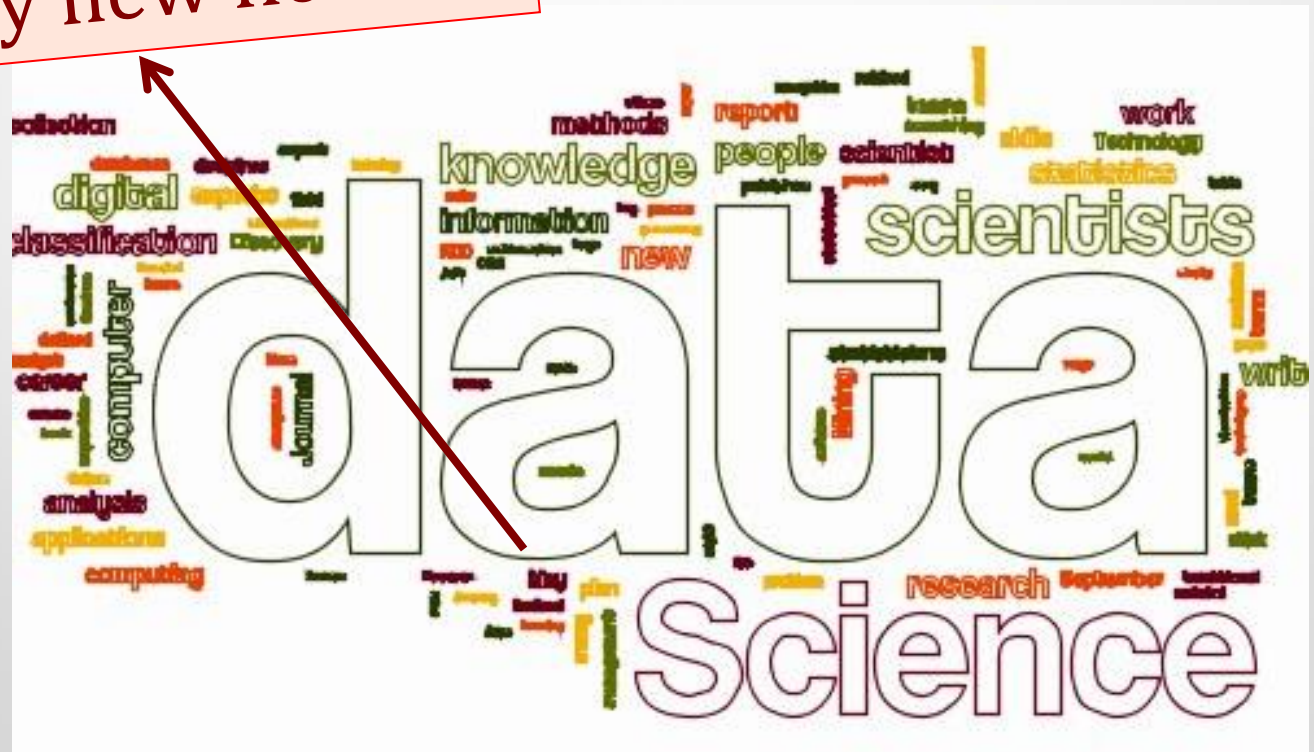Dr.Fatema Nafa

Fall 2022

Welcome to CSC 276!

Data Science

Welcome to CSC 276!

Data Science

This class is truly seminar-style: I'm here, as you are, in order to gain insights into this very new field… .

Week	Date	Day	Topic for Lecture
1	09/02	Thru.	**Module 1:** **COVID-19 Health and Safety Fall 2021** Course mechanic & Logistics, Introduction to Data Science What is Data Science? Why it is important to study Data Science?

Course Information

Instructor	Dr. Fatema Nafa
Email	fnafa@Salemstate.edu
Office Hours	Tuesdays &Wednesdays 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM & by appointment
Lecture Time	WeFr 3:05PM - 4:20PM
Place	Meier 210
Final Exam: Wednesday December 21 2:00 – 4:00	

12/30/2022

Getting Help

- Help is always available!
- Option 1: Come to my Office Hours
  - Tuesdays &Wednesdays 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM & by appointment
  - (I may change the time of my office hours)
  - **Location**: MH **208D**
  - I get bored when nobody visits!
  - If you cannot make my office hours, I will be happy to make an appointment with you. Please try to give me advance warning when you need an appointment.
- Option 2: Check if I am online on Zoom you can chat with me any time.

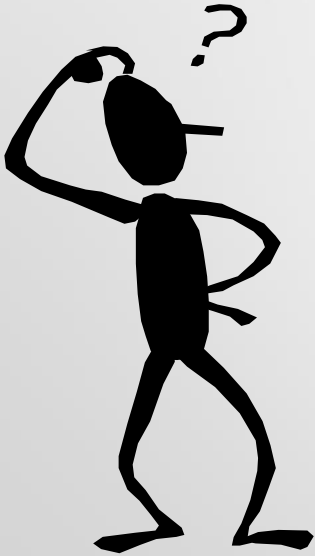| Week	Date	Day	Topic for Lecture
1	09/07	Wen.	**Module 1:** **COVID-19 Health and Safety Fall 2022** **Course mechanic & Logistics,** Introduction to Data Science What is Data Science? Why it is important to study Data Science?

About the course

- A mixture of theory and practice

- Introductory, broad overview of subjects

- Focus on practical aspects, but not on ever-changing technology and tools

- Seminar style - I am here to learn as well as to teach

- Language choice: python

  - Relatively easy to learn (for computer scientist) compared to R (more popular among statisticians)

  - Open source means easy access (as opposed to SAS or MATLAB)

  - Which one is more frequently used in data science?

Let's read the syllabus together

Format and Procedures

- This course includes **lectures, labs, homework**, **assigned readings**, **projects, quizzes**, and exams (**Mid-term** and **Final**).
- **Class Participations and Labs:** Lectures will be given in the assigned lecture room twice a week. There is a laboratory associated with each lecture. The lab will complement the lecture and support the application of materials learned. **Attendance and participation are required**. Lectures will be followed by an in-class lab exercise that assists in the learning process. The last 20 minutes of each lecture will be lab work with a score given based on attendance and successful completion of lab exercises. These "labs" will immediately apply material from the lecture and serve as an introduction to the other programming assignments.
- **Written Assignments:** At the end of every other week, we will either have a problem set or a programming assignment. Students must work individually on these assignments.
- **Projects:** paired or individual projects are required by the end of the semester. The time schedule and grading details for the projects will be provided through the classes via iterations.
- **Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given **in class**. Students must work individually on these quizzes.
- **Exams:** Exams are in-class exams (a mid-term of 90 minutes and a final of 120 minutes). There will be one midterm and one final (comprehensive) examination. The midterm will be held on **week 8 or 9** depending on the class progress, and the final will be held on **week 16** *depending* on class progress. **Please do not arrange any other activities on the posted exam dates.**

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

This is a challenging, programing-intensive course. It gets more difficult very quickly as the semester progress. It is not about coding, but it teaches you how to write an "efficient" and "elegant" code. So, please do not fall behind.

- **Ask for help**. I want you to be successful in this course and I love questions. It's important to ask questions during the class. This is your chance to understand the materials before you go home and read it on your own. There is no stupid question and always know that other students will benefit from the questions you ask during class.
- **Do not get frustrated.** Programming takes patience. It is very common to spend hours doing your HWs/projects. Take short breaks. If you spend hours on one bug or an error, email me and I will help you. Always remember, the more you code, the better you will become.
- **Always keep testing your code.** After ever few lines of coding, test and compile your code. It is easy to find mistakes in a small scope. And remember to back up your code while you are working on it. I recommend saving it in the cloud.
- **As the course is challenging,** and required a significant time commitment for most students, ask your instructor for help, ask your friends, but there is no excuse for plagiarism.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

To communicate with me about this course you are to use the email address on this syllabus. Please include the course number (CSC 276) in the beginning of the subject field for every email message. During the week, you can generally expect a response to your emails within few minutes or hours. If you do not receive my response in 1 business day, please send a second email to me. You can also call me at my office or stop by my office at any time. You can also schedule an appointment by email or zoom.