

# **Instructor Kickoff**

Welcome to Flatiron School!

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# Agenda

- Warm-up & Introductions
- Your Support Team
- Program Tools
- Program Structure & Schedule
- Setting Yourself Up For Success

# **Your Support Team**

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# Your Instructor



## What I do:

- Conduct sessions on core curriculum
- Administer and grade assessments
- Deliver feedback on coursework and progress

**Mark  
Barbour**

he/him



# Your Support Teams



## Technical Support:

- **Instructors:** Organize practice sessions, conduct assessments, and provide feedback on coursework and progress

## Non-Technical Support:

- **Student Advisors:** One-on-one support during your program
- **Career Coaches:** One-on-one support after graduation
- **Community Team:** Discord spaces, newsletters, and events to help you connect with others and build your network

# Instructors

- Able to support during specified hours
  - Instructors = Work day
- Exceptions include meetings, supporting events, lunch, and prep time.
- Instructional team will give you constructive feedback on code and professional skills.
  - They will not necessarily hand you the answer
    - but they'll guide you.



# Program Tools

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# Discord

Important channels to know:

#ds-flex

#all-about-data

#announcements

#events

## Reminders:

Update your server profile:

- Photo (optional!)
- First name and last name
- Get roles!

Complete your onboarding (visit [Server Guide](#))

Download the desktop app!



**Our Code of Conduct applies to Discord.** This is a part of our community but we can't be everywhere at once. Please let us know if you're ever uncomfortable with something that was said or the way something was said.



# Canvas

Flatiron School uses Canvas, a learning management system, to deliver our program and technical content.

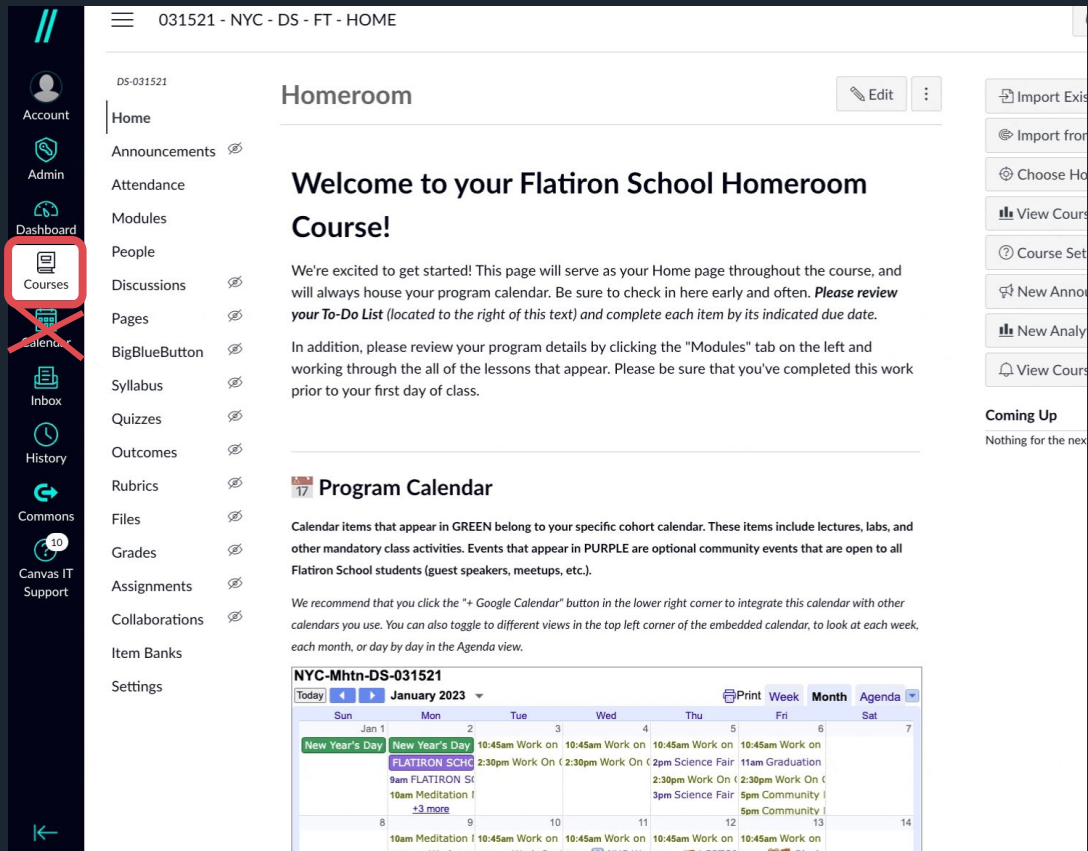
## Homeroom Course

General information, resources, and your calendar

## Phase Courses

Lessons, labs, assessments, and blogs

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The screenshot shows the Canvas LMS interface for the '031521 - NYC - DS - FT - HOME' course. The sidebar on the left contains links to Account, Admin, Dashboard, Courses (highlighted with a red box and a red 'X' over it), Calendar, Inbox, History, Commons, Canvas IT Support, and a back arrow. The main content area is titled 'Homeroom' and includes a 'Welcome to your Flatiron School Homeroom Course!' message. Below the welcome message is a 'Program Calendar' section. The calendar is a monthly view for January 2023, showing various events and activities. The calendar is titled 'NYC-Mhntn-DS-031521' and includes a 'Print' button and a 'Week' button. The calendar shows events for January 1st through 14th, including 'New Year's Day', 'Flatiron School', 'Science Fair', and 'Community'. The calendar is a monthly view for January 2023, showing various events and activities. The calendar is titled 'NYC-Mhntn-DS-031521' and includes a 'Print' button and a 'Week' button. The calendar shows events for January 1st through 14th, including 'New Year's Day', 'Flatiron School', 'Science Fair', and 'Community'.

FYI: Here's your calendar!

# Ada

## Meet our chat bot, powered by OpenAI

- Tailored prompts
- Asks questions and uses analogies, diagrams, code samples
- Guides you toward solution

## How? Chat box in Canvas

### Array Basics

#### Learning Goals

- Access and manipulate data in arrays in Ruby

#### Introduction

Arrays in Ruby share many of the characteristics you're already familiar with from working with arrays in JavaScript. They store lists of data (which can be any data type, and even multiple types of data within the same array) and provide methods for working with arrays in Ruby.

#### Array CRUD

In Ruby, as in JavaScript, you'll commonly need to Create, Read, Update, and Delete data from arrays. For a full list of array methods in Ruby, see the [documentation](#).

Open up IRB and follow along with these examples. Let's start by creating an array representing a shopping list.

```
shopping_list = ["Cookies", "Ice Cream", "Snickers"]
```

#### Reading Elements From Arrays

As in JavaScript, you can access elements of the array using bracket notation with the index of the element you want to access.

```
shopping_list[0]  
# => "Cookies"  
shopping_list[1]  
# => "Ice Cream"
```

You can also access elements starting from the end of an array by providing a negative index:



Chat



Please show me how to loop through an array in python

Certainly! In Python, you can loop through an array using a for loop. Here's an example:

```
my_array = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
```

```
for item in my_array:  
    print(item)
```

In this example, we first define an array called `my_array` that contains the integers 1 through 5. We then use a for loop to iterate through each item in the array and print it to the console.

You can also use a while loop to iterate through an array by using an index variable to keep track of the current position in the array:

```
my_array = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]  
index = 0
```

```
while index < len(my_array):  
    print(my_array[index])  
    index += 1
```

In this example, we initialize an index variable to 0 and use a while loop to iterate through the array until we reach the end.

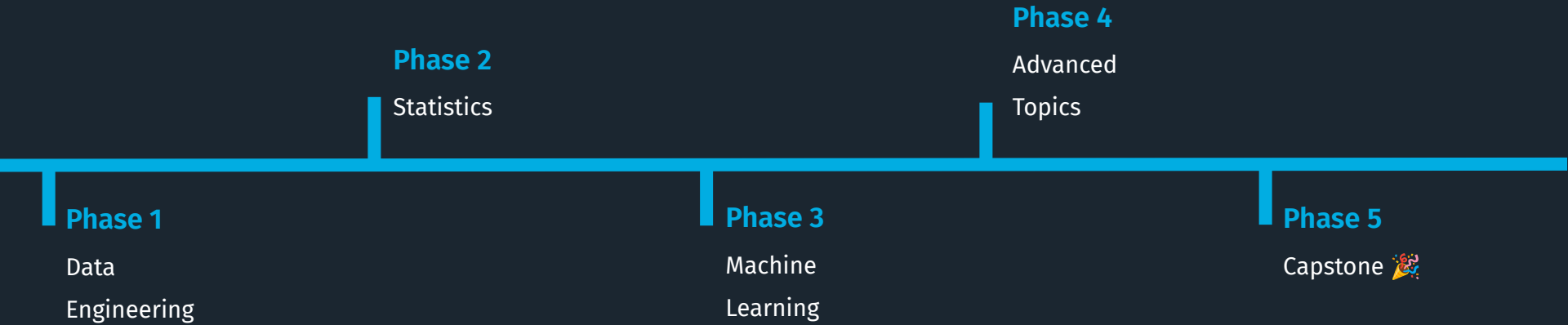
Ask a question...



# **Program Structure & Schedule**

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# Program Timeline



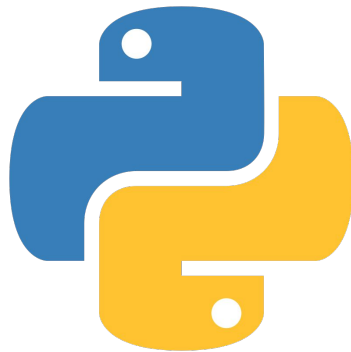
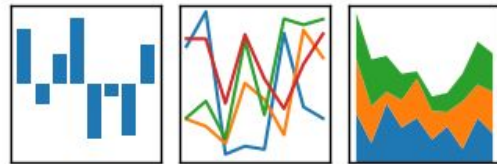
# Curriculum Overview

## Phase 1

- Coding in Python
- Data Manipulation and Analysis
- Data Gathering

pandas

$$y_{it} = \beta' x_{it} + \mu_i + \epsilon_{it}$$



# Curriculum Overview

## Phase 2

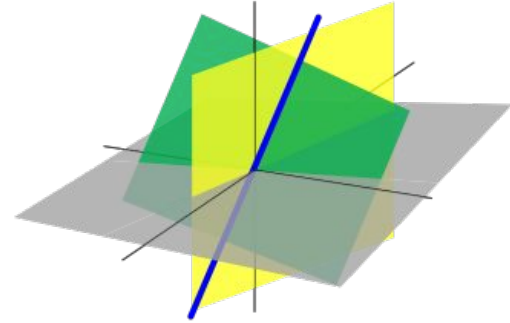
- Coding in SQL
- Statistical Modeling
- Simple Linear Regression



# Curriculum Overview

## Phase 3

- The Math behind Machine Learning
- Classification Algorithms
- Building Modeling Pipelines



# Curriculum Overview

## Phase 4

- Recommendation Systems
- Natural Language Processing
- Neural Networks





# Curriculum Overview

## Phase 5

- Capstone!



# The Next 60 Weeks

## Lessons and Labs

Learn the fundamentals. **You do NOT need to complete all labs and lessons** - but going through most is essential to passing the checkpoints, code challenges, and creating projects.

## Blogs

Each phase you will write a technical blog to practice technical writing and communication skills. These also bolster your online presence for the job search.

## Check-Ins

Required to meet with your instructor 2x per phase. There are open lab help sessions, review sessions, and office hours. Office hours permit you to discuss your progress and receive personalized support. Receive targeted feedback and address any concerns that may arise during your learning.

## Checkpoints, Code Challenges, Projects, and Assessments

You'll be asked questions and be given challenges to assess your understanding of fundamentals. Explain your code from execution to exit point, along with the thought process that went into it. Use the best technical vocab that you can.  
**(Required and Graded!)**

# Grading

## Checkpoints and the Code Challenge

Checkpoints and the Code Challenge are worth **40%** of the overall grade in a phase.

## Quizzes

Quizzes are worth **10%** of the overall grade in a phase.

## Projects and Assessments

Project assessments are worth about **50%** of the overall grade in a phase.

## Passing Each Phase

In order to pass each phase you must **maintain an overall grade of 70% or higher**. You will receive a Satisfactory Academic Progress Form (like a report card) at the midpoint (after phase 3) and the endpoint of your program with your cumulative grade and attendance percentage.

If you do not achieve the required grades you are afforded **one opportunity to retake** the project assessment or submit missing work at the end of the phase.

## Letter Grade

## Range

4.0	100% to 96%
3.7	< 96% to 92%
3.5	< 92% to 89%
3.3	< 89% to 86%
3.0	< 86% to 83%
2.7	< 83% to 80%
2.5	< 80% to 77%
2.3	< 77% to 74%
2.0	< 74% to 70%
1.7	< 70% to 65%
1.5	< 65% to 60%
1.3	< 60% to 55%
1.0	< 55% to 0%

# Get your blog on!

- Approximately 5 minute read
- Published online
- Technical or tech related subjects
- 5 published blogs in order to graduate



**DEV**



**Medium**

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# Project Assessment Protocol



- Submit your project to Canvas before booking a project review assessment.
- Show up, camera on, and ready to share your screen.
- If you need to cancel, do so via Calendly (our booking manager) at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled assessment. Failure to do so could result in a failed assessment attempt.

# Pacing Guidance



## Recommended Pace: 40 Weeks

- Eight weeks per phase
- Dedicate 20-25 hours per week
- Your Base pacing guidance will follow this pace. Follow this pacing to stay on pace with your cohort.

**You will have 60 weeks from your start date to complete your course before it expires.**

Assignments have due dates in Canvas based on a 40 week pacing, but there are **no late penalties** for submitting any assignments past the due date. **All phases need to be completed with a final grade of 70%+ by the end of the 60 weeks in order to graduate.**

# Setting Yourself Up for Success!

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# This isn't like high school or college!



## Teaching Methods

- 1:1 instructional sessions
- Office hours
- Lectures (live and recorded)
- Curriculum (lessons and labs)

## Student Responsibilities

- Watching Lectures
- Canvas course completion
- Blogs
- Checkpoints and Code Challenges
- Projects

## Professional Development

- Online branding (LinkedIn)
- Resume and portfolio building
- Networking



# Personal Empowerment Protocol:

1. Read the error

2. Google the problem

3. Ask a peer

4. Ask an instructor

- This is an important framework in general for debugging / working through problems.
- Remote learning makes it even more vital!
- Reading errors, looking up problems, and collaborating with peers are essential skills.
- Get practice with them before asking us!

# Imposter Syndrome



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**Any questions?**



# For the rest of today...

## Priorities for the next couple of weeks:

- Start building your network: Check out a community event or join an affinity group on Discord
- Make sure you can access all the tools you need
- Create a routine!



***Get stuck? Post in our cohort Discord channel!***

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