

# **Unit 9: Looking Ahead**

## **Building more data science skills**

Lesson 59

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# Overview of unit

## Objectives:

- Understand where to take your data science adventures from here

1. How to think about yourself
2. Building skills
3. Networking
4. Landing a job in data science

# Lesson overview

## Objectives

- Understand strategies for learning more data science skills after this class

## Outline

- What to learn
- How to learn
- Grad school?

# **Learning is a must ... for everyone**

Data science is a rapidly evolving field

- New tools every year
- New data every day (and second)

To remain relevant, you must keep learning.

# What to learn

## Modeling

- Statistics
- Machine learning

## Data engineering

- Databases
- Data munging

## High performance compute

- Distributed computing
- Stream computing

## Software development

## Specific domain knowledge

# How to learn it

What does “learning” mean?

Learning doesn't mean mastering.

Always have a personal data science project on the go

Anything, as long as you know the next step

You'd willingly spend a couple hours on it on a weekend

Classes (Computer Science, statistics, domain-specific courses)

# **What about grad school?**

Except for very specific positions, a PhD is not necessary.

An MS (or PhD) can be a helpful differentiator.

An MS will give you extra time to take specialized courses.

A PhD will give you time to practice, hone, and innovate the data science process.

# Lesson wrap-up

## Takeaways

- Keep learning
- Classes are great, but you can learn a LOT of what you need outside of class.

## Up next

- Networking