DS4A / Colombia 2020:
Getting to Know Your Teammates

During the DS4A program, you will be surrounded by other high-achieving and talented people like yourself. We assemble our DS4A Teams so that you balance each other's skills and learn from each other. Throughout the next 12 weeks — and beyond — we hope you will form friendships that will contribute to each other's personal and professional success.

To get to know each other, we want to recommend the following exercises. Part I is just for fun, and Part II should help you think about what you want to achieve as a Team.

Part I: Who are you?

Two Truths & One Lie

Your Team should create an order, based alphabetically on your first names, with the first name in alphabetical order being player #1, second name player #2, and so on.

Take a few minutes for each of you to think of three statements about yourself. Two must be true statements, and one must be false. The statements do not need to be intimate things, and can be simple interests or past experiences that make you unique.

Follow the order established above. Each player goes one at a time. He or she should share the three statements (in any order) to the group, and the group can then guess which they believe is the lie.

It is up to your group if you wish to keep score and see who correctly guesses the lies, or simply play for fun to get to know each other.

Rapid-Fire Questions

Using the order established above, answer these questions, with only one member answering each question once (e.g., participant #1 answers question 1, then participant #2 answers question 2, etc.). Answer what comes naturally, and don't spend more than about 45 seconds on any question.

1. If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
2. What is your favorite type of foreign food?
3. What did you want to be when you were small?
4. What is your favorite game or sport to watch and play?
5. What is your biggest fear?
6. What was the last movie you went to? What did you think?
7. What would you sing at Karaoke night?
8. Who is your hero?
9. Who is your favorite author?
10. Would you rather win the lottery or work at the perfect job? And why?
11. What was the last book you read?
12. How would your friends describe you?
13. What is your favorite book?
14. If you could join any past or current music group which would you want to join?
15. Aside from necessities, what one thing could you not go a day without?
16. Who would you want to play you in a movie of your life?
17. What's your favorite movie?
18. Do you collect anything?
19. Is there anything you wished would come back into fashion?
20. What celebrity would you like to meet for a cup of coffee?
21. What's the most interesting thing you can see from where you're now sitting?
22. What's the most daring thing you've ever done?
23. What is your proudest accomplishment?
24. Are you an introvert or an extrovert?
25. What was your first job?
26. What motivates you to work hard?
27. If money was no object, what would you do all day?
28. What is your favorite thing about your career?
29. *For each member of the Team:* Pick a question above whose answer may surprise your Team

Part II: DS4A & You

Overview

DS4A is a course designed to benefit participants in a number of ways. In addition to curriculum and lectures, the course offers opportunities to explore meaningful project work, build a network of professional connections and friends, and learn from today's leaders in data science and AI!

Because of this, it can be useful to describe some of your goals as individuals, so that your Team works smoothly when the course begins.

We recommend that you spend some time today focusing on these broad ideas before diving into Project work, as it can benefit Team function later on.

Motivation
- Why are you taking this course?
- What do you most hope to achieve during this course (e.g., find a new job, create an amazing project, grow your network)?
- How do you expect this course will benefit your career and future?

Time Management
- What other obligations do you have (e.g., work, family, etc.) that may impact your work in the course?
- What should your Team know about your outside commitments, so that they can accommodate you best?
- How do you plan to manage these other commitments?

Teamwork
- What does success as a Team look like to you?
- How do you plan to contribute to your teammates' success during DS4A?
- Are there any elements of the course or curriculum that you expect to be a challenge?
- What areas of expertise do you have that will be useful for the Final Project?