



UC San Diego

DATA SCIENCE

[DATASCIENCE.UCSD.EDU](https://datascience.ucsd.edu)

UC San Diego's Data Science major prepares students to understand and solve real-world problems using data. The program integrates computer science, mathematics, and statistical reasoning with hands-on practice in managing, analyzing, and interpreting complex datasets. Students learn core skills in programming, machine learning, data systems, and responsible data use, supported by UC San Diego's strong interdisciplinary environment. The major emphasizes collaboration, ethical decision-making, and applying data-driven methods across scientific, social, and industry domains, preparing graduates to lead in a data-powered world.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Capstone program is a key part of the Data Science curriculum.
- Data Science has 16 industry partnerships including with Deloitte, FICO, Intel, Qualcomm, and SDG&E.
- Data Science has Academic Exchange Programs with Plaksha University (India), Los Alamos National Labs (New Mexico), and Nanyang Technological University (Singapore).

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS MAJOR?

Learn about how you can apply your major to various opportunities after you graduate. The information below is based on recent surveys from alumni in this (or similar) majors and is not an exhaustive list.

RECENT EMPLOYERS

Amazon • Apple • Deloitte • Google • Meta • Qualcomm • Thermo Fisher Scientific • University of California • Viasat

JOB TYPES

Data Engineer • Data Scientists • Machine Learning Developers
• Management Consultants and Business Analysts • Research Assistants

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Computer Science • Informatics • Information Science •
Management Sciences and Quantitative Methods • Operations Research

SKILLS

Common: Research • Communications • Forecasting • Leadership
Specific: Data Science • Machine Learning • Pandas • Algorithms



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

RESEARCH

Learn how to make the most of your experience at UC San Diego within the context of your major.

Conduct research in your field of student with one of the many research programs available. Research opportunities in this major include, but are not limited to:

[Halicioğlu Data Science Institute \(HDSI\) Undergraduate Scholarship Program](#)

- Available during fall, winter, and spring quarters (3 quarter commitment)
- Open to first-years, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.
- Stipend available.

[Undergraduate Research Scholarships \(URS\) - Ledell Family Research Scholarship for Science and Engineering](#)

- Available during summer (10 weeks)
- Open to first-years, sophomores, juniors, and non-graduating seniors.
- Stipend available.

[McNair Program](#)

- Available during winter, spring, and summer (8 weeks); 3 quarter commitment
- Open to juniors and seniors.
- Summer stipend and housing available.

For more details, eligibility, and to explore more programs, visit our [Undergraduate Research website](#).

INTERNSHIPS

UC San Diego offers strong internship pathways for undergraduates through the Academic Internship Program (AIP) and the Research Experience and Applied Learning (REAL) Portal. AIP enables students to earn academic credit while gaining professional experience in fields across all majors, supported by faculty mentorship and an academic component. The REAL Portal serves as a centralized hub for finding research, internships, service learning, and other hands-on opportunities on and off campus. Together, these resources help students explore career interests, build professional skills, and connect academic learning with real-world experience.

Find a Program

- Academic Internship Program: aip.ucsd.edu
- REAL Portal: real.ucsd.edu

STUDY ABROAD

Students are encouraged to explore study abroad opportunities which allow students to experience the culture and history of another country and gain a global perspective, all while earning academic credit toward their degree.

Learn more about study abroad opportunities for [Data Science](#).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Data Science Student Society • Women in Data Science