The University of South Carolina’s Bachelor of Science in Data Analytics is an interdisciplinary program that brings computer science, mathematics, and statistics together with a specific area of focus chosen from a variety of data generating majors and minors offered throughout campus. Based in the College of Arts and Sciences, its faculty are from the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics in that college, and from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering in the College of Engineering and Computing, and its major elective courses are taught by data expert faculty from across campus. Its curriculum features a strong foundation in all the stages of data analysis as well as a minor or second major in the field of knowledge that generate the research question and data. In addition to preparing students for a career in data analytics, the choice of minor or second major can help prepare students for a quantitative or methodological graduate program in that area.

Other data-centered programs at USC include those in the Departments of Computer Science and Engineering (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/engineering-computing/computer-science-engineering/computer-science-bscs/), Mathematics (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/mathematics/), and Statistics (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/statistics/), and the interdisciplinary B.S. in Data Science (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/data-science-bs/) and Minor in Data Science (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/engineering-computing/computer-science-engineering/data-science-minor/). Students who are unsure which program they wish to pursue should consult with their advisor or Exploratory Advising (https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/advising/changing_majors/) immediately to make sure they take the correct MATH and STAT courses to allow for maximum flexibility.

Learning Outcomes

1. Conduct purposeful, real-world data analysis in the student’s specialty area using knowledge from core areas of data analytics
2. Manage complex real-world data sets and be able to extract useful information in the student’s specialty area
3. Identify the ethical, policy, and security considerations and issues of working with data and how its use impacts society
4. Communicate effectively to a non-technical audience what is learned from data, using oral, written reports or data visualization techniques.