Our interdisciplinary Data Science programs are accessible to students with no programming or computer science background, and are joint programs with other schools at USC. Carefully designed introductory courses on computational thinking and programming enable students to take advanced electives in machine learning, user experience design and strategy, knowledge graphs, and scalable data systems. Students learn to work on teams through experiential learning in course-long projects, hands-on homeworks, class exercises in groups, and capstone classes. Many students take internships during their studies, either in research labs in the engineering school or in local tech companies.

USC is second among all private universities in the number of graduates who join top tech companies. Our graduates pursue careers as leaders of data science teams in diverse sectors including technology, entertainment, health, and policy. Our alumni network spans Fortune 100 companies such as Apple, McKinsey, Capital One, Google, Meta, Amazon, LinkedIn, Bloomberg, and Associated Press, as well as many locally headquartered companies such as Fox Entertainment, Netflix, ESRI, Age of Learning, Warner Bros Entertainment and a myriad others that are part of the vibrant Los Angeles tech landscape known as Silicon Beach.

Remote learning is offered for all our graduate data science degree programs through USC’s Distance Education Network (DEN@Viterbi). USC is ranked number one in Online Graduate Computer Information Technology Programs (computer science), Online Graduate Engineering Programs, and Online Graduate Computer Information Technology Program (computer science) for Veterans.

Faculty in this program run large data science projects in natural language processing, social network analysis, biomedical data, environmental modeling, and social justice. Some instructors are industry and government practitioners that lead large teams and contribute to community open source software projects.
We offer several master’s degree programs that enable students to acquire data science skills in the context of a particular discipline. These programs are designed to gently introduce students to programming and computing. Students take courses in computing and data science in the Viterbi School of Engineering as well as courses on quantitative methods and advanced topics in that discipline. All these programs are offered online through our #1 ranked DEN@Viterbi blended platform, enabling students from around the world to complete their graduate degree from a distance while balancing work, life and family.

INTERDISCIPLINARY JOINT DATA SCIENCE MASTERS PROGRAMS

We offer several master’s degree programs that enable students to acquire data science skills in the context of a particular discipline. These programs are designed to gently introduce students to programming and computing. Students take courses in computing and data science in the Viterbi School of Engineering as well as courses on quantitative methods and advanced topics in that discipline. All these programs are offered online through our #1 ranked DEN@Viterbi blended platform, enabling students from around the world to complete their graduate degree from a distance while balancing work, life and family.

Graduate programs:
- Master of Science in Applied Data Science
- Master of Science in Cyber Security Engineering
- Graduate Certificate in Data Science Foundations
- Graduate Certificate in Applied Data Science

Undergraduate programs:
- Bachelor of Arts in Data Science
- Foundations of Data Science Minor
- Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence for Business

THE DATA SCIENCE COMMUNITY AT USC

Our USC Center for Knowledge-Powered Interdisciplinary Data Science (CKIDS) holds semester-long DataFest events that enable students to participate in real-world data science projects advised by faculty across the campus. The GRIDS data science student association provides targeted tutorials and invited presentations from industry on practical applications.