

# Welcome to [datascience@berkeley](mailto:datascience@berkeley)!



# Your Student Success Advisors:



Simone  
Richardson



Adam Devlin



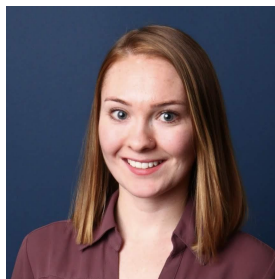
Maggie  
Medearis



Sarah  
Monteleone

Advisors are available to assist with course planning & scheduling, resources, academic progress and challenges, and time management

# Your Student Success Coordinators



Gina  
Ellison



Megan  
Wilking

Coordinators assist with general program questions and resources, onboarding, and account set up

**Call:** 1-855-679-6437

**Email:** [studentsupport@datascience.berkeley.edu](mailto:studentsupport@datascience.berkeley.edu)

**(response within 1 - 2 business days)**

# SMS Messaging

- Opt-in to SMS by texting “Subscribe” to your Student Success Advisor’s direct line.
- Please note that SMS will not be monitored outside standard business hours.
- Student Success response time will take approximately 1-2 business days.
- Available to US based phone numbers only (excluding VoIP numbers)

# Administrative Accounts

[bCourses](#)

CalNet ID

bCourses is the official UC Berkeley Learning Management System, which you will use to attend class, complete asynchronous coursework, and turn in your homework assignments.

[I School Intranet](#)

CalNet ID

Cache of program information, including the MIDS Student Handbook, which outlines degree requirements, curriculum, and grading policies. Additional resources found here are the I School Academic Calendar, information about registration, immersion, and the course calendar.

[CalCentral](#)

CalNet ID

Administrative hub, where you can see your grades and transcript, view information about your financial aid package, see your account balance and pay your tuition bill, and register for classes.

# Communications Accounts

bConnected

CalNet ID

Berkeley's G Suite for Education with all of the standard Google tools, including mail (bMail), calendar (bCal), drive (bDrive), and more. Important announcements from the I School and the campus will be sent to your bMail account, so be sure to check it regularly.

Slack

I School Email

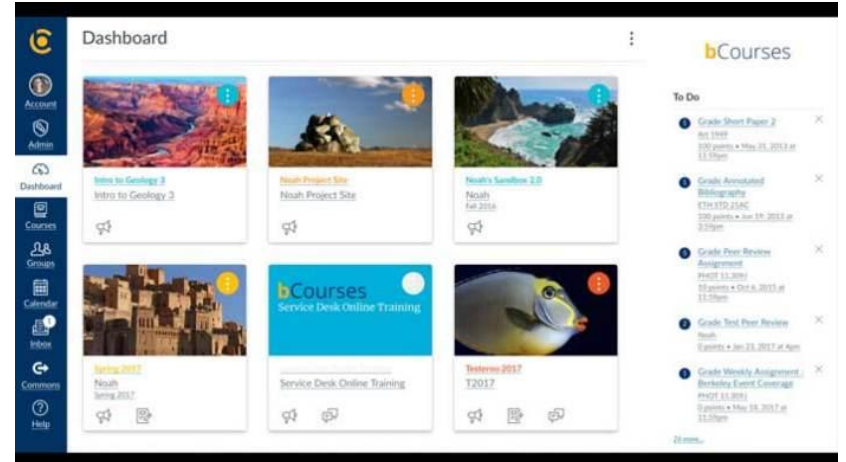
Informal chat communication with your cohort, other students in the program, and faculty.

- Slack requires account set up when accessing for the first time
- **Monitor your @berkeley email account REGULARLY**



# bCourses

- Course access to enrolled sections is available through bCourses
  - Course Access is always 2 weeks before the term begins
- Access through CalCentral under “My Courses” or [bcourses.berkeley.edu](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu)
- Refer to the getting started guide: <https://dls.berkeley.edu/services/bcourses/bcourses-students-getting-started>



# Onboarding Next Steps



## Review and Complete the Following:

- [SHIP Waiver](#)
- [MIDS Student Handbook](#)
- Bridge Courses & Academic Preparation
- Important Dates & add the [Academic Calendar](#) to your calendar app
- Review the attached MIDS Checklist and Account Cheat Sheet



# SHIP Waiver

- Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) is available for students needing health insurance while enrolled in the MIDS program.
- If you already have health insurance, it is **required to complete the SHIP Waiver Process**.
  - Failure to submit a SHIP waiver will result in being charged the full amount of SHIP.
  - SHIP fee is non-refundable without exception if waiver is not submitted.
- Look out for an email to complete the waiver process before the deadline.
  - **You will be required to complete the waiver process each Fall term while you are enrolled in the MIDS program.**
- More information can be found here: <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/insurance-ship/waiving-ship>
- Email [the SHIP Office](#) with any questions.

# MIDS Academic Preparation

- It is in your best interest to ensure you are familiar with the academic principles covered in the program prior to your first term. **Your preparation is your responsibility.**
- Use bridge courses to prepare for various topics including:
  - Linear Algebra
  - Python Programming
  - Calculus
  - Data Structures & Algorithms
- An email with bridge course access information was sent to after your deposit was received.

# MIDS Student Handbook

- Available through the I School Intranet (use CalNet ID login info)
- Information on degree requirements, grading policy, curriculum, Immersion and more
- Ensure your success by becoming familiar with the Student Handbook!

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**Bookmark the link:**

**<https://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/intranet/students/mids>**

# Program Structure

- Three terms per year: Spring, Summer, and Fall
  - You are expected to enroll in each term
- Each term is 14 weeks long (excluding breaks during the term)
- It takes 5 – 7 terms to complete the program (on average)
- **All new students must enroll in 6 units (two classes).** By request, students can enroll in 9 units (3 classes)

# Class Structure

## Asynchronous Material

- Gather class information and material(s) before the start of term
- Assignments & Homework
- **Mandatory videos and readings**
- Complete **before** attending your live sessions **including the week before classes begin**

## Live (Synchronous) Sessions

- Held once per week, 90 minutes long
- Expected to attend **all sessions**
- If you need to miss a session, contact your instructor **immediately** to make alternative arrangements
- **Most classes are scheduled M - Th at 4 pm PT OR 6:30 pm PT**

# Student Expectations

- **Your preparation is your responsibility** - be proactive and start your preparation early as you transition into MIDS
- **Prepare for class specific expenses** - some classes may require the use of cloud computing resources and/or hardware beyond standard textbook purchases
- **Take initiative** - communicate early and often with your professors, teaching assistants, group mates and be transparent if you have any issues





# Student Expectations

- **Always Save a Local Copy** - In the event that you swap sections or have a tech issue, have a back up!
- **Take risks** - use resources to help you learn and seek help when you need it
- **Be professional** - imagine you are in a real classroom during live sessions
- **Take part in the community** - attend office hours, submit feedback through surveys and your Student Success Advisor
- **Don't wait until the last minute to seek advice or assistance!**



# First Term Courses

All first term students will take the following class:

- **DATASCI 201 Research Design and Applications for Data & Analysis (RDADA)**

**Based on Diagnostic Placement Exam, you will also take one of the following:**

- DATASCI 200 Introduction to Data Science Programming\*
- DATASCI 203 Statistics for Data Science
- DATASCI 205 Fundamentals of Data Engineering
- DATASCI 207 Applied Machine Learning

**\*Must be taken in term one if not waived through Diagnostic Placement Exam**

# Accelerated Track

- Students who are **not working full time** may take up to three courses per term **pending approval each term.**
  - Space in third class is not guaranteed.
- Taking three classes in one term is the equivalent of working a full time job.
- Student working more than 20 hours per week will not be considered or approved.
- Approval must be obtained every term each term a student wishes to take three classes from the Director of Student Affairs.
  - Reach out to your Student Success Advisor for additional information
  - Refer to [Acceleration Request](#) page for additional information

# Degree Requirements

- 9 classes required (27 units total)
  - Foundational Courses: DATASCI 200, 201, 203, 205, & 207 (pending the Diagnostic Placement Exam)
  - 3-4 Advanced Electives (exact number determined by amount of foundation classes waived)
  - Capstone Course (**must be taken in final semester**)
  - Each class is three units
- 1 Immersion Program

# Immersion Program

- **Required to attend one Immersion during your MIDS program.**
- Offered three times per year - twice in person on campus and once virtually.
- All information can be found here on the [Intranet Immersion page](#).
- Plan ahead for the event in which you are interested.
- After attending **one** Immersion, registration for a second is not guaranteed.

# Questions?

Our Student Success team is here for you! We are your first point of contact for anything related to [datascience@berkeley](mailto:datascience@berkeley)

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