WHY MaCSS?

MaCSS provides students with practical skills in the analysis and interpretation of social data – data about people, communities, organizations, and their interactions – preparing students for jobs as data analysts in business, government, and the nonprofit world. Our program’s heavy emphasis on social science ensures an ethically responsible implementation and interpretation of data.

THE MaCSS DIFFERENCE

Jobs that require people to analyze data and interpret their findings are growing rapidly, driven by the development of computing technology, the rapid growth of computational techniques, and the explosion of data in many forms.

Training in statistical and computational methods alone is inadequate for valid, reliable, and ethical analysis of social data. Instead, high-quality analysis requires strong skills in statistics, computing, and the social sciences. This intersection of computational analysis and social issues differentiates the MaCSS program from other data science and data analytics graduate programs.

COMPUTING TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

Learn programming languages, version control, and machine learning using datasets to understand social behavior with (mostly) statistical analysis.

STATISTICAL METHODS

Apply statistical techniques to datasets in order to answer real-world questions, using computing tools and guided by social-science frameworks.

SOCIAL SCIENCE THEORIES

Examine social science concepts through immersion in datasets using computational tools and statistical techniques.

macss@berkeley.edu
macss.berkeley.edu
MaCSS CAREERS

Our focus on practical application, in addition to the two required career development courses and dedicated career staff, will prepare MaCSS graduates for their job searches and careers as data analysts across a variety of industries and sectors.

Jobs that require masters degrees in areas related to computational social science are in high demand with annual salaries over $100,000.

MaCSS CURRICULUM

Our interdisciplinary curriculum provides students with rigorous training in statistical and computational methods using social science frameworks. MaCSS places an emphasis on industry application, teaching students how to approach problems using current real-world data.

Summer Boot Camp:
- Introduction to applied statistics
- Introduction to computing

Students can waive out of the boot camp by passing MaCSS exams in statistics and computing methods.

The one-year MaCSS curriculum includes:
- Social-science frameworks
- Applied statistics
- Advanced computational tools
- Ethics, societal conflicts, and data
- Data visualization
- Career development
- Capstone project

MaCSS ADMISSIONS

Application Deadline: Monday, January 8, 2024

We are looking for applicants with an undergraduate degree in the social sciences who have an interest in learning cutting-edge data analysis skills and furthering their careers in fields requiring advanced computational skills. Ideal applicants should be curious and insightful, with the demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with people from diverse backgrounds.

OUR DEI COMMITMENT

The MaCSS program seeks to create a diverse pathway into data-centric professions by bringing together students from different socioeconomic and ethno-racial groups, various gender identities, and other underrepresented groups.