

CDS 301 / CDS 501 Syllabus Scientific Information and Data Visualization

Fall 2021

Course General Description

This course is an in-depth study of the methods and software used in Data Science to analyze complex information. Topics include data visualization, interactive visual analytics with data and the effective communication of information. Elements of usability, user experience, and the psychology of the user are developed. Exercises to help students develop their understanding of the role that visualization plays in computational science. Provides a foundation for data visualization applications in their careers. Student will complete a data-driven group project.

Data visualization is a subfield of data science that has the intrinsic purpose of communicating the results of data analyses in a coherent, integrated way, through maps, charts, and other visual elements. Particularly for the social and behavioral sciences, data visualization is useful in understanding large datasets, noisy datasets or emphasizing connections between various elements or phenomena that are not immediately obvious to social scientists.

Course Description

This course addresses the following requirements for Social and Behavioral Science:

1. Explain how individuals, groups or institutions are influenced by context
2. Demonstrate awareness of changes in social and cultural constructs
3. Use appropriate methods and resources to apply social and behavioral science terminology, principles and theories in the analysis of significant human behavior in the present.

These requirements are addressed by the course in the following ways:

1. Students will use R and learn how to create comprehensive visualization. The course covers the best visualization concepts and principles currently used in statistics, computing, and data science.