

COURSE DESCRIPTION – ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

Course title	Programming and Visualization for Data Science
Course code	27500 (loaned from course 73062)
Scientific sector	INF/01
Degree	Master in Data Analytics for Economics and Management (loaned from Master in Computing for Data Science)
Semester	1 st semester
Year	1 st study year
Credits	12
Modular	Yes

Total lecturing hours	80
Total lab hours	40
Attendance	Not compulsory. Non attending students have to agree with the lecturer on the modalities of independent study at the beginning of the course.
Prerequisites	Basic programming concepts
Course page	https://ole.unibz.it/ and https://teams.microsoft.com/
Specific educational objectives of the course	<p>The course belongs to the type "caratterizzanti – discipline informatiche".</p> <p>Module 1: Introduction to programming for data science</p> <p>The course is designed to provide specific professional skills. The students will learn how to organize and analyze data by writing programs, using the Python programming language. More specifically, the students will practically learn to import, manipulate, analyze, visualize, and model a dataset. The students will also get familiar with libraries that can be effectively used for data analytics.</p> <p>Module 2: Data Visualization and Exploration</p> <p>The course is designed to acquire professional skills and knowledge useful when exploring datasets. In particular, the student will be able to visualize datasets choosing the most appropriate technique for the data at hand and will be able to get insights from the data supported by the visualizations, using basic statistical tools. The student will also learn to avoid the common pitfalls in visualization that can mislead the analysis. Visualization and data handling are done using the R programming language, following the best practices of reproducible research.</p>

Module 1	Introduction to programming for data Science
Module code	27500A
Module scientific sector	INF/01
Lecturer	Antonio Liotta
Contact	antonio.liotta@unibz.it

Scientific sector of lecturer	ING-INF/05
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Arranged beforehand by email
Lecturing assistant (if any)	--
Contact LA	--
Office hours LA	--
Credits	6
Lecturing hours	40
Lab hours	20
List of topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Languages for programming data and data visualization • Integrated Development Environments for Data Science • Data wrangling, cleaning, and preprocessing • Advanced libraries for linear algebra and statistics • Data science pipelines, from data ingestion to models and analysis • Model tuning, validation, and testing
Teaching format	Frontal lectures, lab assignments, project work.

Module 2	Data Visualization and Exploration
Module code	27500B
Module scientific sector	INF/01
Lecturer	Ozan Kahramanogullari
Contact	ozan.kahramanogullari@unibz.it
Scientific sector of lecturer	INF/01
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Arranged beforehand by email
Lecturing assistant (if any)	--
Contact LA	--
Office hours LA	--
Credits	6
Lecturing hours	40
Lab hours	20
List of topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reproducible analysis practices • Human perception for effective visualization • Data types and visual encodings • Visualization idioms • Exploratory data analytics, data exploration, and feature engineering • Advanced libraries for data visualization
Teaching format	Frontal lectures, lab assignments, project work.

<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<p>Knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the key concepts and technologies of data science disciplines • Understanding of the skills, tools and techniques required for an effective use of data science • Knowledge of principles, methods and techniques for processing data in order to make them usable for practical purposes, and understanding of the challenges in this field • Knowledge of the challenges in the field of man-machine interface and of the methods and techniques for overcoming these challenges <p>Applying knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical application and evaluation of tools and techniques in the field of data science • Ability to develop programmes and use tools for the analysis and management of data and related infrastructures • Practical application and evaluation of tools and techniques for data analysis • Design, application and evaluation of technologies and tools for human-machine interaction, data exploration and data visualization <p>Making judgments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to autonomously select the documentation (in the form of books, web, magazines, etc.) needed to keep up to date in a given sector. <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to use English at an advanced level with particular reference to disciplinary terminology • Ability to present one's work in a clear and comprehensible way in front of an audience, including non-specialists • Ability to structure and draft scientific and technical documentation <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to deal with problems in a systematic and creative way and to appropriate problem solving techniques.
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>The exam modalities are the same for both the attending and the non-attending students. Project work (70% of the final grade) and final exam (30% of the final grade). All project works must have been submitted, at the very latest, 15 days ahead of the oral exam. In case of a positive mark, the projects will count for all 3 regular exam sessions.</p>
<p>Assessment language</p>	<p>English</p>

Assessment Typology	Collegial
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>70% project work, 30% oral exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant for project work: clarity of presentation, ability to gain useful and novel insights from data, creativity, critical thinking, ability to adhere to reproducible research best practices • Ability to use R software to perform basic data preparation tasks, ability to properly use R plotting facilities, ability to summarize the concepts of the Grammar of Graphics and of human perception, ability to choose the best type of graphical representation for different types of data, correct usage of basic statistical tools • Ability to use Python to employ (understand, recall and use) data analytics methods in practical settings, from data collection and curation, to data analysis and visualization.
Required readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Data Visualization. A practical introduction.</i> Haley. Available online • <i>R for Data Science.</i> Wickham. Available online • <i>A layered grammar of graphics.</i> Wickham. Available online • <i>Python Data Science Handbook</i>, by Jake VanderPlas. O'Reilly Media (1st Edition, 2016). <p>Subject Librarian: David Gebhardi, David.Gebhardi@unibz.it</p>
Supplementary readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fundamentals of Data Visualization.</i> Wilke. Available online • <i>Visualization Analysis and Design.</i> Munzer. Amazon • <i>Data Visualization: Charts, Maps, and Interactive Graphics.</i> Grant. Amazon • <i>Doing Data Science.</i> Cathy O'Neil, Rachel Schutt. O'Reilly, 2013, https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/doing-data-science/9781449363871/ • <i>Python for Data Analysis.</i> By Wes McKinney. O'Reilly, 2nd Edition, 2017, https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/python-for-data/9781491957653/
Software used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rstudio https://www.rstudio.com/ • Jupyter Notebook (for Python programming)