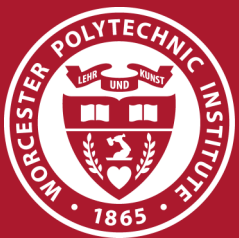Data Science

Welcome Packet 2019

WPI

DATA SCIENCE

GRADUATE STUDIES

DATA SCIENCE

WPI DATA SCIENCE PROGRAM

Hello WPI Data Science Students:

Welcome to the spring 2019 class of the WPI Data Science Program!

We are looking forward to meeting each one of you.

During our Data Science Orientation on January 8, you'll be introduced to your Faculty Advisor who will guide you through the next two years of intensive study and career decisions.

This Welcome Packet will provide you with condensed information that will help direct you through this huge transition to life as a WPI Data Science Graduate student.

Congratulations, and Welcome!

Professor Elke Rundensteiner
Program Director, Data Science
datascience@wpi.edu

GETTING STARTED

ATTEND THE GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATIONS

At the start of each semester WPI holds an Incoming Graduate Student Orientation. It's most helpful for you to attend this session which covers important topics and which is designed especially for you. Here's the link for the various orientations [LINK](#).

You will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the orientation presentations that perhaps you have not had answered elsewhere, and you will also meet other students who are WPI graduate students and who will become your new, lifelong friends.

HAVE A QUESTION

WE HAVE LINKS

The WPI Office of Graduate Studies web site LINK is your best source for information when you are in need of something that is procedure, coursework, registration or advising related, and so much more.

There is so much happening on and around campus that you can always find something to do by looking on CAMPUS LIFE. Also be sure to look at the WPI Data Science site LINK .

The Graduate Catalog is a wonderful source of information as well and will be a constant help for you LINK

Remember, you may always, always come to the Data Science office, Fuller Labs 242 for help of any kind.

The URL for the WPI homepage is WPI.EDU

GET CONNECTED

Your WPI ID card is the American Express card of WPI: *"Don't Leave Home Without it!"*

Once you have received your WPI student ID number we recommend you memorized it. Once you're here on campus you'll be instructed to go over to card services in the lower level of   Founders Hall where you will be given your WPI ID card. *This is very important!* You must bring a picture ID with you to prove your identity, such as passport or valid driver's license. The WPI ID card allows you to enter many buildings, take out library books, and more.

Please always keep it with you while on campus.

Once you have your WPI ID:

Copy and paste http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/CCC/Services/accountmaint.html into your browser in order to create your Computer and Communications Center (CCC)accounts.

Once your WPI CCC computer account is set up, you need to request a CS account. To do this, please email MVoorhis@cs.wpi.edu and let him know you're a new DS student.

If you have any trouble with this process, or any IT issues, please go to the Helpdesk in the Gordon Library.
They are here to help you. We call them the Helpdesk Heroes! They're amazing!!

WPI is an email society, so check your WPI email often!!

HELP

DESK

HERO

Check with Michael Voorhis mvoorhis@cs.wpi.edu that you have been added to the grads@cs.wpi.edu mailing list. If you take a semester off, you must add yourself to the mailing list .

To do so, just stop by the Helpdesk or go to http://web.cs.wpi.edu/Help/new-grads-FAQ.html.

MEET AND GREET

Please visit the Data Science office in Fuller Labs, Room 242 and introduce yourself to the Admin. We like to put names to faces. And please always notify the Data Science Admin and the International House when you change your local address or phone number.

This link is specifically designed for our Data Science students and you'll find most everything you need to navigate through the Data Science Program right here: **LINK**

You will be introduced to your Faculty Advisor during the Data Science Orientation and we recommend that you remember to bring your Plan of Study form. This is important as you approach the second semester and you're looking at where your DS career is going. Plan of Study form can be found in the above link.

OTHER STUFF

SITES:

http://www.wpi.edu/academics/departments/data-science

https://www.wpi.edu/academics/departments/data-science/resources

The CS Department's Graduate Regulations as well as the Graduate Council's simplified description of the Bin Requirements:

https://web.cs.wpi.edu/Help/simplified_bins_description.html

Please familiarize yourself with and follow the WPI Honesty Policy:

http://wpi.edu/about/policies/academic-integrity

You are expected to attend the CS Colloquium *every* Friday at 11:00am (check times)

http://web.cs.wpi.edu/cs/about/colloquium.html

Attend Research Group Seminars

http://cs.wpi.edu/Research/group_schedules.html

RESOURCES:

http://web.cs.wpi.edu/cs/graduatePrograms/faqNew.html

http://web.cs.wpi.edu/research/FacultyResearchProfiles.pdf

http://wpicsgradcafe.wordpress.com A forum for graduate students

http://www.wpi.edu/academics/Depts/HUA/WC/Writing center

Your progress in the Data Science graduate program will be evaluated by the Data Science Faculty annually.

GET INVOLVED!

WELCOME

WELKOM

欢迎

MIRE SE VJEN

BIENVENIU

GHINI VINISHI!

DEGEMER MAT

WELKOM

SANNU DA ZAWU

ALOHA

XUSH KELIBSIZ

స్వాగత

DYNNARGH DHIS

SELAMAT DA-TANG

BE KHER HATI

أهلا بك

WILKOMME

WELKAM

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are as many different regulations for international students who study abroad in the United States as there are different ways of saying **WELCOME** to you.

The important thing is that you present yourself to the International House on campus as soon as you arrive to be sure your paperwork is all in order. They know the specific requirements of each country and will walk you through all of the details.

If there are any problems, come to the DS office and we'll do what we can to help sort things out.
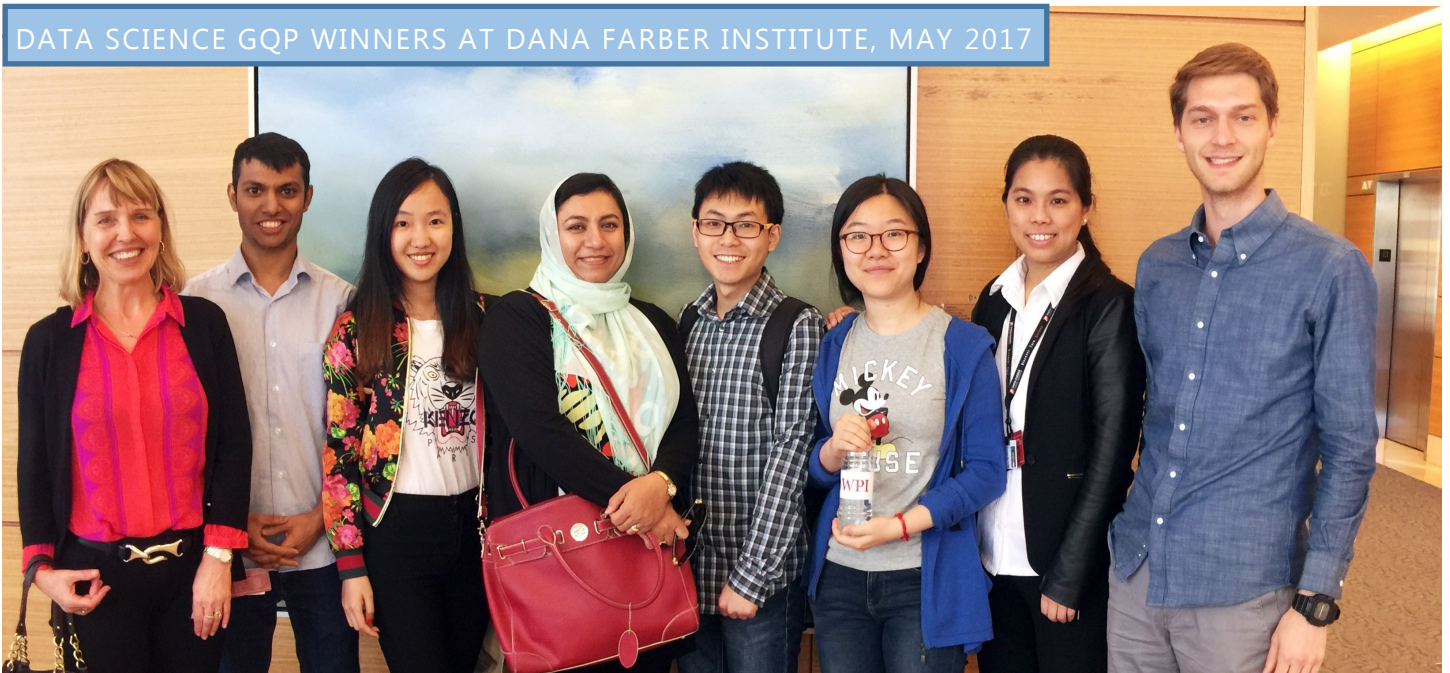
PREPARE FOR CLASSES

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic calendar delineates important dates for you, such as holidays observed by WPI, class start dates, add and drop deadlines, etc. As you plan your schedule, the academic calendar will be an integral resource to better help you prepare for your academic future. LINK

WPI BOOKSTORE

Before the start of each term, faculty communicate with the bookstore and have them order the books necessary for their classes. You may order your books via the bookstore website and in most cases the books will be listed on the site beside the course. Please also note that *you can rent books* as well as buy and sell used text books via the WPI bookstore. wpi.bncollege.com

If you do not see a text book listed on the WPI Bookstore site, it may mean that your course does not require a text book and may be relying on electronic material available via the Gordon Library, or that your instructor has not yet communicated the necessary text to the bookstore.

DATA SCIENCE GQP WINNERS AT DANA FARBER INSTITUTE, MAY 2017

STAY ON TRACK

CITE YOUR SOURCES

In a todays culture of linking, tagging and recycling material found online, it's easy to forget that in the academic context, you must properly quote and cite any words and ideas that are not your own.

Many WPI students have been sanctioned for not correctly citing their sources.

Please read and adhere to the WPI Academic Honesty Policy.

wpi.edu/offices/policies/honesty/policy.html

WPI CAMPUS CENTER AT NIGHT

SEEK OUT HELP

FACULTY ADVISOR

Your faculty advisor is in the best position to help you with any academic difficulties you may face.

Your advisor will help you with selecting your courses, identifying WPI resources that can best augment your studies, help in planning your capstone project, and considering an internship opportunity where available.

But, your faculty advisor is also the first person to email if you are having difficulties in any of your classes. If you need a tutor, the advisor will know the best tutor to direct you to for help, and can direct you to specific WPI resources on campus as well.

A word of caution: don't wait until things are too far along and you are overwhelmed or discouraged before contacting your faculty advisor. It's better to get help before you really need it than to have to play catch up and keep up.

In the WPI Plan, students have the final responsibility for designing their own educational experience which includes understanding all their degree requirements and making sure all those requirements have been satisfied for graduation.

TRANSPORTATION:

A WORD TO THE WISE:

Worcester is a large city and you must use caution when going from the campus to your home or moving about, especially in the evenings. Most of our DS classes are in the evening and we expect our students to take care of one another when walking home in the dark. Always use the most lighted path and girls, if a male student can't walk you home, WPI has an Escort service to accompany both male and female students home: call Campus Police at 508.831.5433 and they'll be more than happy to give you an escort.

Also, WPI has it's wonderful SNAP Transportation Services which will deliver you safely to your destination if it's within 1 mile of the campus.

Please read the Safety and Security links:

https://www.wpi.edu/student-experience/resources/safety

Please read this personal safety for students, and follow the recommendations:

https://www.wpi.edu/student-experience/resources/safety/personal

Put SNAP in your phone now so you don't forget: 508-831-5433

Important Emergency numbers:

https://www.wpi.edu/student-experience/resources/safety/important-phone-numbers

Shuttle schedule:

https://www.wpi.edu/student-experience/resources/safety/campus-transportation/shuttle

https://www.wpi.edu/offices/police

In case of *any emergency* while *not* on campus, please dial **911**

That number is good anywhere in the USA and you'll be directed to the nearest police who will help you.

DESTINATION WORCESTER

There are a few quirks you'll need to be aware of if your new home is in the CITY OF WORCESTER. The web sites below may help you maneuver some of the pit falls other students have fallen into. This first site has a good overview of the city.

http://www.discovercentralma.org

Here's some specific information you'll need when living here...

* Your trash needs to be taken to the curb on the morning of trash collection. (see site for DPW)
* You must purchase Yellow Worcester trash bags to deposit your trash on the curb. Most grocery stores sell Worcester trash bags.
* All recycled items, glass, plastic and cardboard, need to be put into a blue recycling on the curb, on the same morning as your trash collection (see DPW site for where to get recycling bin)
* All glass needs to be washed clean before being put into recycling bin. Otherwise the trash guys won't take it...ever.
* Call Spectrum if you want cable hook-up for cable/phone/internet at home
  https://www.spectrum.com   (883) 694-9256

Car ownership:

* Registry of Motor Vehicles:
  https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-registry-of-motor-vehicles
* For driver's license also.
* Snow days - when it snows you *must* move your car to the even numbered side of the street or it will be towed away... and you'll have to pay a lot of money to get it back from the tow truck yard. Plus it will ruin your day...
* Street cleaning; every spring our streets are cleaned. There will be signs posted on trees on your street to alert you to move your car off the street. Plus, if you get a ticket, and it'll ruin your day.
* Our electricity comes from National Grid:
  https://www.nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Default
* If your home has gas for stove or heat, it will be Eversource.com
* Most other services are from http://www.worcesterma.gov
* Your oil supplier could be any number of people, so check the oil tank.

* *If there's a fire or any emergency, dial **911** immediately!*

Random information:

* Worcester Chamber of Commerce https://www.worcesterchamber.org/
* Like to eat out? http://tasteworcester.com/

Welcome!

We are so happy you

are part of

WPI DATA SCIENCE.