School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Master of Science in Social Data Analytics and Research



Program Description

The Master of Science in Social Data Analytics and Research degree program builds on faculty expertise in criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, political science, public and nonprofit management, public policy, political economy and sociology to equip students with advanced training that is widely applicable in a variety of fields.

As demand for social data production, collection and analysis increases—driven by government, nonprofit and private sector organizations, as well as doctoral programs and advanced research institutions—students with advanced training and



expertise in both quantitative and qualitative methodologies will have the skills and experienced needed to thrive in many different industries.

Taught by internationally recognized faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas, graduates of the Social Data Analytics and Research program develop advanced expertise in:

- Social science research design and evaluation.
- Quantitative and qualitative data discovery and analysis.
- Social science methodologies, theories and philosophical dimensions, as well as the ethics of social science practice.
- Applied social science in the service of public policy and action.

Responding to an ever-increasing need across public and private sectors for social data analytics and research, the program equips students with rigorous multidisciplinary proficiencies in social data production, collection and investigation.

Benefits

The Social Data Analytics and Research master's program ensures that students gain a broad understanding of their discipline, apply their knowledge and analytical skills to create effective and novel solutions to practical problems and communicate and work effectively in collaborative environments.

Other benefits include:

- World-Class Faculty: The program is led by faculty of the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences who are widely cited experts in their respective fields.
- Comprehensive Curriculum: Courses in the Social Data Analytics and Research master's program will introduce students to new ideas, technologies and competencies while preparing them to succeed in both public and private sectors.
- Facilities: Students have full access to four state-of-the-art computer laboratories housed in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. All computers are network linked and hold full suites of leading survey, qualitative, spatial and statistical analysis software, including Qualtrics, NVivo, ArcGis, ENVI, EViews, R, STATA, and SAS.
- Location: Situated in the greater Dallas region—recently rated by Forbes magazine as the #1 "Best City for Jobs"—UT Dallas provides students with easy access to employers and internship opportunities, not to mention a large and supportive alumni population.

Contact Information

Program Director Email: ph.sdar@utdallas.edu

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Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Social Data Analytics and Research master's program have gone on to pursue a wide variety of careers, such as:

- Data Scientist or Analyst
- Data Mining Specialist
- Database Manager
- Statistician
- Program Evaluation Analyst

- Decision Support Analyst
- Research Analyst
- Opinion Polling Statistician
- Community Intelligence Expert
- Information Resource Analyst

Marketable Skills

The MS in Social and Data Analytics equips students with a number of data analysis skills, including knowledge of both quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis. Graduates of the program are well-positioned to take up positions in industry, government, and non-profit organizations that collect and analyze data.

- Students will have the ability to design and exeute complex research designs.
- Students will understand and be able to execute regression analysis.
- Students will understand how to build and manage large and/or complex data sets.

Application Deadlines and Requirements

Please take note of all application deadlines and visit the Apply Now webpage to begin the application process.

Applicants to the Social Data Analytics and Research master's degree program should have:

- A baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution of higher education.
- A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 out of a 4.0 scale.
- Test Scores: A verbal score of 150 and a quantitative score of 150 on the GRE.
- Letters of Recommendation: Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from individuals who can judge the candidate's potential for success in the master's degree program.
- Admissions Essay: Applicants must submit a one-page essay outlining personal background, education and professional objectives.
- International applicants must submit a TOEFL score of at least 80 on the internet-based test. Scores must be less than two years old. See the Graduate Catalog for additional information regarding English proficiency requirements for international applicants.

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