



university of
 groningen

Data Science and Society

Bachelor's degree programme



Open academic community – since 1614

BSc. Data Science and Society

Special features

- **Bridge building:** You will learn to master technical skills while recognizing the equally important relevance of social and governance perspectives on digitalisation.
- **Interdisciplinary:** You will develop effective communication skills and become a valuable team-player who is able to work with varying topics and methods to solve challenges that cannot be addressed by one discipline alone.
- **Relevance:** Almost all companies face challenges related to digitalisation, so your knowledge and skills will be highly relevant.
- **Hands-on:** You will work together with organizations on data-related challenges during a simulation exercise and a Living Lab!

Why can't Google Maps recommend the most beautiful hiking routes? Could facial recognition systems make racist decisions? How can we design technologies that protect human rights? In this interdisciplinary programme at Campus Fryslân you learn how to collect, understand and visualise data, while discovering the ethical, societal and governance implications of technology. Explore Data Science from a unique perspective and gain desired future-proof skills to create a better world!

This is the programme for you!

Are you interested in data and the impact it has on society? Do you want to solve the digital challenges of today and create a better tomorrow? Then this is the right program for you! You will study in an interdisciplinary and internationally-oriented learning environment, and work on hands-on projects with professionals. You will develop the skills you need to tackle urgent societal challenges, via state-of-the-art, fair and sustainable data-driven solutions. Our campus is located in the center of Leeuwarden, Fryslân (the Netherlands).

Career opportunities

Your skills to navigate between different perspectives and communicate with people from various backgrounds will be highly relevant for employers! After graduating, you can start working as a data analyst or data steward. Depending on your specialization, you can also pursue a master's degree in Data Science, work on applications in the areas of voice technology and AI, or become an expert on governance and innovation.

Course examples

Year 1

- Programming for Data Science
- Statistical and Machine Learning
- Science and Technology Studies 1: Data Creation and Circulation
- Human Right in the Digital Age 1: Exploring Human Dignity
- Managing and Visualizing Data
- Regulation, Governance and Innovation 2: Responsibility
- Big Data: Data Source and Distributed Computing

Year 2

- Collection and Use of Biometric Data: Ethical, Legal and Social Perspectives
- Simulation Exercise
- Living Lab
- Specialization courses in Cognitive Technology or Regulation, Governance and Innovation

Year 3

- Minor electives (abroad, premaster, personal)
- Specialization in Cognitive Technology or Regulation, Governance and Innovation
- Bachelor Thesis



Application deadline

1 May

Duration

3 years

Location

Leeuwarden, Campus Fryslân

Entry requirements

Bachelor students with a Dutch VWO-diploma with any profile (or equivalent international high school diploma), or having obtained a HBO-propaedeutic certificate with a passing grade for VWO Mathematics A or VWO Mathematics B (or the international equivalent) and a passing grade for VWO English (or proof of sufficient proficiency by means of an English language test) have direct access to the programme.



“The crossroads where a wide range of ideas meet to find a common ground and generate new ‘offspring’”

Ofer Engel (lecturer)



Two of the Nobel Laureates for Economics in 2021, Joshua Angrist and Guido Imbens, have earned their award for breaking ground discoveries. Their insights are being used today to extract more value out of data, allowing us to answer fundamental questions such as these: does better access to contraceptives lower the rate of crime? Why does racism affect men of colour differently than it affects women of colour? Does having daughters influence the voting behaviour of members of parliament? This is what I find so exciting about the Data Science and Society programme: it forms the crossroads where a wide range of ideas meet to find a common ground and generate new ‘offspring’.



More information

You can find more information on the programme, requirements and tuition fees at [rug.nl/masters/bachelors/data-science-society](https://www.rug.nl/masters/bachelors/data-science-society)

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