

## A path to data analytics success

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<b>Aim/Purpose</b>	Enrollment into data analytics courses often requires completion of pre-requisite courses such as statistics, information systems, and operations management. Programs may want to recruit cross-discipline students who do not meet the pre-requisites. Ensuring that students have the necessary tools to be ready on the first day of class is a laborious process for admissions officials. We offer a solution in the form of a path to create a process to waive the pre-requisites.
<b>Background</b>	We are a mid-size, public university in the southeast that has a need to address pre-requisites for our data analytics courses.
<b>Methodology</b>	This is a case study where we will use a literature review to explore options and then design and implement a system for waiving pre-requisites.
<b>Contribution</b>	Adding cross-discipline students to courses, increasing enrollment, and enriching the team environment is important while being able to maintain an environment that allows for successful teaching outcomes.
<b>Findings</b>	Several options including: a centralized, internally created video library connected to standardized assignments that can serve as a scaffolding; external organizations (Pluralsight, Code Academy, LinkedIn Training, Khan Academy, SAS) with free content; “test-out” option for students with existing technical ability but lacking the documentation of a specific credential
<b>Future Research</b>	Examine the effects on soft skills by adding cross-discipline members to teams. Identification of technical skills necessary for career paths that would identify potential students for data analytics courses or certification programs.

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**Keywords**

Data analytics courses, pre-requisites, collaboration, soft skills, online learning