Congratulations on your acceptance to the Master of Science (MS) Data Architecture and Management program at Northeastern University’s Graduate School of Engineering!

As an incoming Spring 2021 student, there are some steps that you need to take before the Spring semester starts. Please read this document thoroughly as it contains helpful information and can answer many of your questions before you start your first semester in your master’s program.

**Step 1: Confirm your enrollment.**
You will not be able to register for classes (information below) until you confirm enrollment. You can confirm your enrollment by logging into your application account and paying the enrollment deposit. If you have any questions regarding this process, please reach out to the Graduate Admissions team. You may contact them at coe-gradadmissions@northeastern.edu.

**Step 2: Know your faculty advisor and administrative contacts.**

Professor Kal Bugrara  
Program Director, Data Architecture and Management

Sam Casey, Program Manager  
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Erin Macri, Administrative Assistant  
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**Step 3: Complete your course registration.**
As a Data Architecture and Management student, you have 4 required courses to complete during the duration of your program in order to earn your degree. These courses are INFO 6105: Data Science Engineering Methods and Tools, INFO 6210: Data Management and Database Design, INFO 7250: Engineering of Big-Data Systems, and INFO 7370: Designing Advanced Data Architectures for Business Intelligence. **INFO 6105 and INFO 6210 are mandatory courses for the Spring semester. Elective options will be available for you to take in the Fall once you complete these courses.** The Spring classes will help first-year students develop the skills you will need to be successful throughout the rest of your program.
Professor Bugrara has created the following advising guide for you to refer to as you choose your courses for this Spring. Please note that any class times listed means the class will have a synchronous lecture at that time, in addition to a recorded lecture.

**INFO 6105: Data Science Engineering Methods and Tools (Machine Learning)**
This class is for students who are planning to build a career in engineering machine learning and data science applications. The class covers the fundamentals of probability and statistics, data analysis and engineering, classification and clustering techniques, statistical inferencing, machine learning methods and tools. In a step-by-step manner, students will learn how to code in and make extensive use of the python programming language. Minimum expertise in programming is required to take this class. Though very demanding, this class is a good fit with the Application Engineering class (INFO 5100) for students with prior development experience.

**Sections Available:**

Section 03: Tuesday & Friday 1:35 - 3:15 PM
CRN 34274

**INFO 6210: Data Management and Database Design**
For the student who has no background in databases and wants to know what is involved in the design and programming of databases and wants to maximize technical skills. A good foundation for those who want to focus on data management, business intelligence, data science, etc. or who want to make these areas their career objectives. This class will prepare you well for Web Methods and Tools in the Fall semester.

**Sections Available:**

Section 10: Saturday 2:30 - 6:00 PM
CRN 36462

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How do I register?**
Please enter the CRN numbers listed above directly into your registration worksheet. If you need help navigating to your registration worksheet on your
my.Northeastern account please watch the following webinars for instructions on how to register using your my.Northeastern account:

Course Search Webinar
Course Add/Drop Webinar
General Registration Instructions

What if I already registered for classes?
Please drop them immediately--unless they are the courses listed above. As a first-term student, you should only take the sections of the classes listed above.

Can I take a course other than what’s listed above?
No. These classes were chosen because they are appropriate for first-term students. Please refer to the advising guide to select the class most relevant to your interests.

How do I meet with Professor Bugrara?
You will have an opportunity to meet with Professor Bugrara, the Director of the Data Architecture and Management program, at orientation before classes start.

Am I allowed to take three courses?
No. Data Architecture and Management students are limited to two courses each term. Based on feedback from our students, we found that three courses were too demanding, especially in terms of final exams and projects. All courses require projects that count as much as 30% of your final grade and it is extremely hard to complete three of these in one term. No exceptions to this policy will be considered until after your first year.

Can I take courses from other departments?
The only departments DAMG students can take courses from are Information Systems (INFO) and CSYE (Computer Systems Engineering).

Can I transfer credit from other universities?
No. Professor Bugrara firmly believes that all 32SH should be taken within the program at Northeastern University to uphold the integrity and continuity of the program.

What is the duration of the Data Architecture and Management Program?
You are required to take eight courses for a total of 32 credits. The program takes a minimum of three semesters to complete. The typical student takes 2.5 years to complete the program, which includes an eight-month co-op.
Is there funding or Teaching Assistant jobs available for first year students?
Unfortunately, there are no funding options in your first year. TA positions are filled by second year students only. You are expected to be fully dedicated to achieving academic success in the first year of the program.

Am I required to bring a laptop?
Yes. You must bring a high-quality laptop with a minimum of 8 GB memory AND a strong (four-hour) battery life.

Am I eligible for co-op?
You are not eligible for co-op the first two semesters of your program, during which your focus will be strictly academic. During your last semester of study (in your second year), you must be fully on campus as a full-time student, even if you are eligible to be on co-op. According to government rules and regulations, co-op is an educational opportunity to strengthen your engineering skills—not a job pursuit.

How do I register for the co-op course?
One of the requirements to becoming eligible to go on co-op is to take ENCP 6000, Career Management for Engineers. You can register for this course just as you do with your academic courses, but you need to make sure that you register for a section only for DAMG students.

How long can I go on co-op?
Co-ops are a minimum of four months and a maximum of eight months.

Will I get a bill from registering?
Yes, your first e-bill is generated when you register for your courses. You will receive an e-bill from the University with instructions on how to pay the e-bill. If you have questions about payment, please contact the Student Financial Services office directly: http://www.northeastern.edu/financialaid/contact/.

How do I get a my.Northeastern account?
If you have not set up your my.Northeastern account, please follow the instructions here.

For more information about beginning your program at Northeastern University, please read your acceptance letter in full.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Graduate School of Engineering!