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 2022 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
  s.casey@northeastern.edu
- Yalan Sun, Program Manager
  y.sun@northeastern.edu
- Erin Macri, Administrative Specialist
  er.macri@northeastern.edu

**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 DAMG 6105: Data Science Engineering with Python, DAMG 6210: Data Management and Database Design, DAMG 7250: Big Data Architecture and Governance, and DAMG 7370: Designing Advanced Data Architectures for Business Intelligence. **DAMG 6105 and DAMG 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.

**DAMG 6105: Data Science Engineering with Python**
This class studies the Python programming language with data science as the application domain and offers students an opportunity to learn how to perform complex numerical calculations, fixed data types, space efficiency, and vector manipulations. The class covers tools and techniques for manipulating tables, spreadsheets, group and pivot tables involving extremely large data sets, large multidimensional arrays and matrices and the high-level mathematical functions to operate on these arrays. Students will study how to use Python to manipulate the classic math and science algorithms. Includes higher-level classes for manipulating and visualizing data. The course applies tools and techniques to classical data science using cases such as time series forecasting, social network analysis, text analytics, and big data processing.

**Sections Available:**
- **Section 01:** Tuesday & Friday 3:25 - 5:05 PM
  CRN 38542

**DAMG 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.

**Sections Available:**
- **Section 01:** Monday 6:00 - 9:30 PM
  CRN 38545

- **Section 02:** Wednesday 6:00 - 9:30 PM
  CRN 38546

- **Section 04:** ONLINE
  CRN 38548

- **Section 05:** Thursday 6:00 – 9:30 PM
  CRN 38549
Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register?
Please enter the CRN numbers listed above directly into your registration worksheet. In some instances, these sections may not be available to view online as they are reserved for first-term students only. In these cases, you will not be able to register for these classes using the search classes feature and MUST enter the CRNs directly. If you need help navigating to your registration worksheet on your my.Northeastern account please visit the Registrar’s website for 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 DAMG (Data Architecture and Management), INFO (Information Systems), and CSYE (Software Engineering Systems).
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?
The ENCP 6000: Career Management for Engineers course is required to be eligible for co-op and to obtain access to Northeastern’s co-op job platform, to search for co-op positions. Please see the Intro to MGEN Coop Education Registration guide found in the Course Registration Guidance section on the New Student Information website. 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. You can see this information in the course description on your registration portal under “Program Restrictions.”

For more details, the Graduate Co-op Eligibility and Requirements can be found HERE.

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/](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](http://www.northeastern.edu/financialaid/contact/).

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!*