



EASTERN UNIVERSITY DATA PULSE

2024 FALL I

FROM THE ASSISTANT DEAN

When I hold information sessions for prospective students, I'm often asked about the impact Eastern's faith has on our programs. Whether you are a Christian who is drawn to Eastern because of our Christian foundation or come from a different faith tradition - or none at all - it's good to understand how faith informs the academic experience.

For **LifeFlex** programs like ours, the impact of faith can be more difficult to identify and more difficult to experience. We know our students are not all Christians, and many of you are here to learn concrete, technical skills and have no interest in exploring faith. While our courses, with the exception of DTSC 690, don't have explicit Christian readings, they are built on the Eastern's mission and values of faith, reason, and justice.

So how does faith impact our coursework? For those of you who are involved in a faith community, you know faith is not something that can be compartmentalized, but is a lens through which you experience the world. Our programs have been created by faculty and staff who view their work as a calling. We are here not just to create courses, but truly to help transform students' lives and equip students to make a meaningful impact on the world.

We know there are students who wish to be more active in their faith within our program. With that in mind, I'm happy to announce we're going to begin more formally expanding prayer support for students. There are two components to this. First, we will be creating a School of Mathematics and Computational Sciences prayer community. Second, we will be more actively soliciting prayer requests from students. If you have any requests, please feel free to reach out through the form below, and our SMCS prayer community will be notified. Note that all aspects of our prayer community and prayer requests will be kept strictly confidential.

In addition to the prayer community, remember that all students are welcome to attend Chapel virtually, every week at 3PM ET. You can also view previous Chapel and other faith-related events through our **[Office of Faith and Practice YouTube](#)**. You can also learn more about the Vision and Mission of Eastern **[here](#)**.

Please know there is absolutely no pressure to be a part of this group or to participate in prayer requests. We warmly welcome all students, but understand this is not for everyone in our community.

For those of you who would like to be a member of our prayer community, please fill out this **[form](#)**. If you have any prayer requests at any point, feel free to send them through this **[form](#)**, or email **datascience@eastern.edu**, myself, or any of our faculty or staff directly.



DR. GREG LONGO, ASSISTANT DEAN FOR THE SCHOOL OF
MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tell us about your Academic and Professional Journey:

I originally started out in the field of marine science, having received my undergraduate degree from Nova Southeastern University. After a few years as a research assistant, I decided to change careers to data science. I completed my M.S. in Data Science here at Eastern in May of 2023 and worked as a Data Scientist at a marketing agency. During my time in the program, I was a GA for DTSC 520 and since graduating have continued as a FTA for DTSC 690. Just recently, I accepted the position of Academic Quality Specialist. I'm thrilled my professional journey is continuing at Eastern and can't wait to help this program grow and exceed students' expectations!

Are there any particularly challenging courses you've encountered, and how have you navigated them?

DTSC 680 Applied Machine Learning was one of the tougher courses for me. DTSC 670 Foundations of Machine Learning Models prepares you for this course, but learning to implement and optimize models in Python can be a bit overwhelming at first. Fortunately, there are tons of helpful resources and plenty of people to reach out to if you need help. I still thoroughly enjoyed the course, and it was especially exciting to see everything we've learned in earlier classes come together. It truly makes you feel like a professional data scientist!

Are there any standout courses you've particularly enjoyed during your time at Eastern University?

My favorite course as a student was DTSC 580 Data Manipulation. I love Python and this course is where your programming skills really take off. The assignments are fun and challenging as well!

Can you share any time management strategies or organization techniques that have worked well for you?

My go-to time management technique is creating a list of tasks I need to complete and breaking down larger projects into manageable items. I try to look ahead a week or two and decide what my priorities should be based on upcoming deadlines and long-term goals. I also like to start my day or week roughly planning what tasks I want to work on, and the time limit I'll try to complete them in.

What advice would you give to incoming students about preparing for their future careers while at Eastern University?

It's never too early to start working on a portfolio of data science projects that can demonstrate your skills to future employers. There are certainly assignments and projects in this program that can help with that, but don't overlook outside resources such as Kaggle, Codecademy, and Datacamp.




Kiersten Monahan

Happy Fall! This is my favorite season. I love the fall foliage, apple cider, pumpkin spice, sweater weather, you name it! I grew up in New York but live in Louisiana now, so fall isn't quite the same when it's still 80 degrees outside. I have a chocolate lab named Stella, who loves to play fetch and go on walks. In my free time I enjoy reading, baking, and doing puzzles. And if I'm not doing one of those, I'm probably rewatching *The Office* or *The Great British Bake Off*.

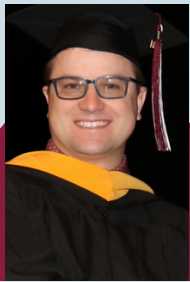
LIVE HOMECOMING EVENTS!

✨ Mark Your Calendars for Homecoming Week! ✨

🚀 EU Data Science and Analytics invites you to these exciting events! For more information, visit the [Programs Page](#)

 17 Monday, October 7 | 8 PM ET
🎓 691 Capstone Presentations

[ZOOM LINK](#)



JOHNATHAN MILNER

SENIOR ANALYST


[Nursing Home Hospitalizations and Explainable Machine Learning.](#)



STEPHEN HUDSON

SENIOR DATA SCIENTIST

[Data Science Education: Introduction to Computer Vision](#)

 17 Wednesday, October 9 | 8 PM ET

🎤 Special Speaker Event featuring Rev. Dr. Erin Raffety



EXPLORING VIDEOGAMES FOR ACCESS AND LEADERSHIP AMONG DISABLED PEOPLE IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

[ZOOM LINK](#)



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



QUIZ TIME LIMIT

Quiz attempts will be limited to 120 minutes (2 hours). After 120 minutes, the exam will automatically submit and be counted as one attempt. Please review your course syllabus for more information.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY



Join the Student Portfolio & Network Building (PNB) Group!

Upcoming Sessions

October 25, 2024 at 11:00 AM (ET): Professional Communications session

January 10, 2025 at 11:00 AM (ET): Digital Portfolio session

WELCOME NEW STAFF!



Kiersten Monahan

Academic Quality Specialist
MSDS & MSDA

SOCIAL MEDIA

We're excited to announce that we're now on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn! 🚀



Stay in touch by following us!

NEW COURSE ASSISTANTS

William Miles: GA 520

Eric Padelford: GA 520

Chloe Birta: GA 550

Lauren Sakowski: GA 550

Henry Hartzler: GA 580

Kendall Dwyre: FTA 620

Curtis Nielson: AA 670

ADVISING

Term Dates

Withdraw without academic penalty:

- October 13th by 5:00 pm ET

FA1 ends: October 13th at 11:59 pm ET

- Grades posted within 1 - 2 weeks

Important Reminders

- The last day to register for Fall 2 is Monday, October 28th
- The last day to register for Spring 1 is Monday, January 21st

📅🌟 Keep up with all the important dates and make the most of your student journey! Subscribe to [Student: MSDS/DA Calendar](#)

[Guide to Not Getting Scammed](#): Tips from EU's CIO

FAITH AND COUNSELING

Counseling and Crisis Services

Services through Uwill are available to all students and include 24/7/365 crisis support.

- [Click here for the Uwill website](#)
- [See the Uwill FAQ](#)
- **Uwill Crisis Line: 833-646-1526**
(outside the US, Canada and Caribbean call +1-984-268-2016)

EU Chapel Livestream:

- [Watch Live Chapel](#)
- [Recorded Chapel \(YouTube\)](#)
- [Chapel Schedule](#)

University Chaplain:

[Dr. Joseph Modica](#)

Contact Us:

General Questions: datascience@eastern.edu

Advising Questions: dsadvising@eastern.edu

Fees and Billing: student.accounts@eastern.edu

Find Us on Social Media:

