

## ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

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### ACTION REQUESTED:

Recommendation   
Decision   
Discussion/Direction   
Information

**DATE:** 26 January 2021

**FROM:** Undergraduate Studies Committee

**SUBJECT:** Minor Program Adjustment – Data Science Minor

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### COMMITTEE MANDATE:

In accordance with Section 1. b) of the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Terms of Reference, USC has the responsibility “to approve minor program adjustments and report them to Academic Council for information.”

USC is reporting these changes to Academic Council for information.

### BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

The Faculty proposed to provide more flexibility for students taking the Data Science minor by adding existing courses (CSCI 4150U - Data Mining, CSCI 4050U - Machine Learning, Theory and Application) as alternatives to the other fourth year courses. The new flexibility better aligns with the diverse job needs for data scientists.

While both of these additional courses require an additional prerequisite (CSCI 3070U: Analysis and Design of Algorithms), they do not preclude students without this course from taking the minor as the current course options will remain available.

### RESOURCES REQUIRED:

There are no impacts on resources.

### TRANSITION PLAN:

None, this course will be made available as of Fall 2021.

### CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

USC: 15 December 2020

Faculty Council: December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Curriculum Committee: November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### NEXT STEPS:

This change will be included in the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

**SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:**

- [Minor Program Adjustment Proposal](#)