

Data Scientist - Analytical Product Development

Basic information

Scale: 1

Job family: DDaT

Terms: Permanent

Location: Cheltenham

Reports to: Data Product Specialist

Direct reports: N/A

Team: Analytical Product Development

Business unit: Digital and Data

Date reviewed: January 2021



Job purpose:

The Data Scientist will be part of a team responsible for providing data science capabilities to support UCAS' data product development. Working across both data and digital products, you will be part of a multidisciplinary team providing data science skills and knowledge, to build first-class products for our customers and leverage UCAS' valuable data asset.

Led by the Data Product Specialist and the Principal Data Scientists you will support the delivery of UCAS data products to time, cost and quality. You will champion excellence and professionalism in data science and have the customer focus and drive to use data in ways which support wider audience understanding and use of UCAS' data.

Key accountabilities:

- To deliver high value analytical products to time and quality, in line with our product development process
- To embrace scrum methodology and work effectively in a self-organising team of data scientist
- To derive new and valuable insights from data and communicate these effectively to decision makers
- To engage with other data scientists across the business, sharing insights and new analysis across the team
- To contribute to innovation within the team, from new product ideas to improvements to current processes
- To re-platform existing analytical products in support of migration to new technologies
- To identify and implement areas of improvement with regards to automation and efficiency in the generation and delivery of analytical products
- To interact with internal stakeholders in sprint reviews and other relevant engagements.

Skills, qualifications, and experience:

- Bachelor's degree (or higher) in a numerate discipline, such as mathematics, statistics, computer science, operational research, data science, or a related field
- Good working knowledge of programming in Python and/or R (or equivalents) and the ability to write readable, efficient code
- A collaborative nature and the ability to communicate effectively with both technical and non-technical audiences
- A natural curiosity and drive to find things out that really matter from data
- Commercially aware and user-focussed
- A high level of numerate, analytical and logical thinking
- Experience of developing, testing and deploying statistical, numerical and/or machine-learning models is desirable
- Experience of data visualisation tools is desirable.

This role profile sets out the scope and main duties of the post at the date when it was drawn up. Such details may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the post or the level of responsibility entailed. Such variations are a common occurrence and cannot of themselves justify a reconsideration of the level of the post. All UCAS employees are expected to be flexible in undertaking the duties and responsibilities attached to their role and may be asked to perform other duties, which reasonably correspond to the general character of their role and their level of responsibility.

Our values in action:

Customer-focused – We understand what our customers want, and we act on their changing needs.

Collaborative – We collectively create an engaging and positive work environment.

Accountable – We take ownership of our individual and organisational performance.

Service excellence – We realise, grow, and maximise our potential.

Trusted – Individuals are trusted to make informed decisions and take appropriate risks.