

The Multidisciplinary Studies Data Science and Analytics Track 4+1 Pathway offers qualified students an expedited and cost-effective opportunity to pursue an advanced degree. The pathway provides students in bachelor degree programs such as Business, Computer Information Systems (CIS), Criminal Justice, or Communications with an accelerated course of study and seamless entry to the multidisciplinary master's degree.

ABOUT THE PATHWAY

The Multidisciplinary Studies Data Science and Analytics Track M.S. 4+1 Pathway allows students to complete course requirements for their bachelor's degree while taking select graduate-level coursework during their undergraduate study. The DSA track is designed as a Professional Science Master's (PSM) which combines coursework in data science with communication strategies and project management classes and an internship experience. Students in programs leading to a bachelor's degree in Business, Computer Information Systems (CIS), Criminal Justice, or Communications should consider this pathway to an advanced degree. Other bachelor's programs may also be considered for design of a 4+1 in this multidisciplinary M.S.

Candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 before enrollment in any graduate course in the 4 + 1 pathway. Students can take the following classes while in the pathway:

- **PSM 601** Project Management or **PSM 602** Communication Strategies for Math and Science Professionals
- **DSA 650** Data Strategy and Governance
- **DSA 501** Data Oriented Programming
- **GEG 534** Geospatial Programming
- An elective approved by DSA faculty advisor

Students begin graduate coursework during their undergraduate studies. They are formally accepted into the Graduate School after verification of the completion of bachelor's degree and submission of the Graduate application. Graduate applications fees are waived for 4+1 pathway students. Once officially accepted into the graduate program, graduate credits will be applied to the graduate course of study and all the policies and privileges relevant to graduate students will apply.

APPLYING TO THE 4+1 PATHWAY

Qualified students interested in applying to the Multidisciplinary Studies Data Science and Analytics Track 4+1 Pathway should contact Dr. Joaquin Carbonara, Unit Coordinator or Ms. Diane Marra, PSM Coordinator. Application information for the 4+1 pathway is available on the Graduate School website at <https://graduateschool.buffalostate.edu/41-undergraduate-graduate-pathways>

Candidates electing the 4+1 pathway option are required to submit a one-page application and a written statement of commitment to the program that clearly demonstrates why they are selecting the 4+1 pathway and how the degrees earned will impact their career goals. The statement must affirm the candidate's intent to remain at Buffalo State for both undergraduate and graduate studies. The written statement is assessed by the faculty as an essential part of a successful application.

Students entering the pathway must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) in at least 45 credit hours. Transfer students wishing to enter the pathway may apply providing they obtain a 3.0 or higher in their first semester at Buffalo State.

Students must have some introductory college coursework in science and mathematics prior to admission into the 4+1 pathway including: a statistics course (e.g., MAT 311, ECO 305, etc.), basic calculus (MAT 126 or equivalent), and a basic introduction to programming in Python (MAT 241 or equivalent) prior to admission into the 4+1 pathway; however, students can complete a statistics course after being accepted into the pathway.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For program information and admission guidance:

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For information about the
Multidisciplinary Studies, M.S.
degree, contact:

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