Master of Data Science Industry Based Capstone Projects

Guide for industry partners

The University of Queensland commenced a flagship postgraduate program in 2017. The program is one of the most comprehensive data science programs in Australia, and combines high-level analytical and technical skills with industry-specific knowledge and essential professional attributes.

A core component of the program is a capstone project which involves designing and implementing a data science solution to an industry or academic problem. Students undertaking the capstone will further their specialist knowledge and technical skills through industry placements.

During the capstone, the student is expected to spend around 5 hours per week over a semester (March-June or August-October) developing a proposal and performing an initial analysis of the problem. In the following semester (August-October or March-June) the student is expected to commit around 20 hours per week to execute a solution and write a report for assessment.

Projects should be both beneficial to the industry partner, and satisfy broad academic technical complexity requirements to ensure that they provide students with sufficient learning opportunities for their degree program. These will be discussed during the project formulation.

Around May and September each year an evening information night highlighting the placement program, academic expertise in Data Science at UQ, and opportunities for industry partners will be held. Please ask to be added to our contact list if you wish to receive information about these events.
## The Process

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 1</strong></td>
<td>Project proposals. If you think you have a suitable project for a student, or wish to discuss possible ideas with an academic in the program, please complete the <a href="mailto:online.form">online form</a>. Provide a brief summary of the proposed project as a starting point. <em>Note there are several levels of industry engagement that might be appropriate: These range from analysis of a static data set where a student is based at UQ and has occasional meetings with their industry partner, through to a student spending up to 20 hours each week working off-campus with the industry partner.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 2</strong></td>
<td>On receipt of the <a href="mailto:online.form">online form</a>, we will put you in touch with potential UQ supervisors who will be able to provide advice to the student on report writing and the academic requirements of the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 3</strong></td>
<td>We will alert students to your projects and ask them to submit an expression of interest to your contact person. You will be able to meet with students, and offer the project to the student(s) that you deem suitable for the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Step 4</strong></td>
<td>UQ has simple processes to ensure students are insured if they are off-campus and that any legal issues have been satisfactorily considered. These are undertaken once the project scope, student and supervisors are aligned.</td>
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The project should be implemented in the time frames discussed above (finalisation in early June, or late October) to ensure that the capstone courses are completed to align with UQ semester timetables.

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**For further details, please contact:**

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