

## Getting the Data on Data Science with Zach Drake

### Session Overview

Trying to break into tech? Or, score that unicorn salary right out of school? It might not be hard as you think. Zach drake, principal data scientist at Nuspire, give us the DCS-AltAc community the data download on data science careers across AltAc spaces. He unpacks how to rebrand your social science PhD into a data science degree and help you market yourself as someone who solves everyday problems in any industry.

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### **Additional Information & Materials from Zach**

#### R, or Python, or Julia?

We didn't spend a ton of time talking about where to invest your time learning. In general, there are more jobs out there for python scientists, but it doesn't have a ton of application to academia. If you are dead set on leaving the academy behind, then I would say spend the time to learn to do analysis in python. If you want to straddle the academia and industry, learn R. After you have learned one or both, spend some time on Julia. A great infographic is here: <https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/r-or-python-for-data-analysis>

#### DataCamp

I can't stress enough how much I recommend DataCamp. They have courses and tracks/programs on so many different scientific skills. The learning style is so interactive. Even for folks in academia I recommend it as an easy place to learn how to do different types of analysis. If you want to break into this space, completing the Data Science Python track is the best place to start. Doing the projects and assessments also gives you a great portfolio to talk about in interviews. They have a certification as well I would recommend as the icing on the cake of your new resume!

<https://www.datacamp.com/tracks/data-scientist-with-python>

<https://www.datacamp.com/tracks/data-scientist-with-r>

#### Certifications

On the topic of certifications, there are a lot of great ones that can be real door openers. Since everything is going cloud these days, the "tech" side of things is very often working with cloud databases. I would say to learn one cloud stack really well and go from there. Below are the certifications (in order) I would suggest for either AWS or Microsoft.

#### AWS

1. <https://aws.amazon.com/certification/certified-data-analytics-specialty/>
2. <https://aws.amazon.com/certification/certified-database-specialty/>
3. <https://aws.amazon.com/certification/certified-machine-learning-specialty/>

#### Microsoft

1. <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/certifications/azure-data-fundamentals/>
2. <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/certifications/azure-data-scientist/>